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Presbyterian Church in the
U.S.A. Synod of New York.
Minutes of the ... annual
session of the Synod of New

1882-1896

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SYNOD OF NEW YORK,

HELD IN THE CITY OF ELMIRA,

OCTOBER 19-22, A. D. 1886.

WITH AN APPENDIX.

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OF THE STATED CLERK.

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THE OFFICERS OF THE SYNOD.

MODERATOR.

REV. JOSEPH E. NASSAU, D. D., Warsaw.

STATED CLERK.

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THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK

A. D. 1886.

THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Church in the City of Elmira, on Tuesday, the 19th day of October, A. D. 1886, at half-past seven o'clock P. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Moderator, the Rev. L. Merrill Miller, D. D., of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence, on Luke xvii., 21, "The kingdom of God is within you."

After the sermon, the Synod was organized for business with prayer.

The roll was called, and the following Ministers and Ruling Elders were found to be present as duly appointed delegates from the Presbyteries:

THE ROLL OF THE SYNOD.

I. PRESBYTERY OF ALBANY.

Ministers.

James Gardner, D. D.,
John McC. Holmes, D. D. (2),
David M. Reeves, D. D.,
Alexander Rankin,
DeWitt G. Rockefeller,
Raymond H. Stearns.
Walter Laidlaw.
James N. Crocker, D. D.

Ruling Elders.

Edward P. Durant (2).
Richard Taylor.
Alexander J. Thomson (2).
Georger Lasher.
Darius S. Orton, M. D.

II. PRESBYTERY OF BINGHAMTON.

Ministers.

John Rutherford,
A. Cameron McKenzie,

Ruling Elders.

Charles E. Merriam.
Benjamin Hathaway.

III. PRESBYTERY OF BOSTON.

Joseph W. Sanderson,
Charles C. Wallace, D. D.
George N. Karner.

John Gilchrist (2).

IV. PRESBYTERY OF BROOKLYN.

Leander T. Chamberlain, D. D.,
Charles J. Jones, D. D.,
John G. Hehr (2),

James R. Howe.
George Hannah (2).
Andrew W. Morehouse.

V. PRESBYTERY OF BUFFALO.

William S. Hubbell, D. D.,
T. Ralston Smith, D. D.,
William Waith,
Martin D. Kneeland,
Rufus S. Green, D. D.
Nathaniel I. Rubinkam.

Chauncey G. Talcott.
Stephen M. Clement.
George W. Tew (2).
Charles G. Brundige.

VI. PRESBYTERY OF CAYUGA.

Wallace B. Lucas,
David I. Biggar,
Asa S. Fiske.

Charles F. Blood.
Brainerd Lyon.

VII. PRESBYTERY OF CHAMPLAIN.

Augustus Frederick.
S. Gilbert Boardman.

VIII. PRESBYTERY OF CHEMUNG.

Charles C. Carr,
Bryce K. Douglas,

Solomon L. Gillett.
Martin J. Sunderlin.

Ministers.

Alvin Cooper,
Albert Livermore,

Ruling Elders.

J. Alvah Tyler.
Edwin Weller.

IX. PRESBYTERY OF CHILE.

X. PRESBYTERY OF COLUMBIA.

William S. Long,
George C. Yeisley,

John C. Frink.
Thomas E. Ferrier.

XI. PRESBYTERY OF GENESEE.

Joseph E. Nassau, D. D.,
Hiram W. Congdon,
John F. McLaury,

William R. Halbert.
James Brew.
Ethil C. Sherman.

XII. PRESBYTERY OF GENESEE VALLEY.

David McLeod,
John Burrows, D. D.,

William F. Wheeler.
Alvin B. Webster (2).

XIII. PRESBYTERY OF GENEVA.

D. Henry Palmer, D. D.,
Anson H. Parmelee,
Benjamin F. Millard,
Hiram H. Kellogg.

George R. Hunt.
John H. Lown.
Charles E. Osborne.

XIV. PRESBYTERY OF HUDSON.

David Beattie,
Charles H. Park,
Charles Beattie,

Joseph W. Helm (2).
James C. Bull.
Horace D. Thompson.
Robert I. Crawford.

XV. PRESBYTERY OF LONG ISLAND.

Frederick E. Allen,
Walter Condict,
Samuel Whaley.

James H. Foster.
J. Morrison Raynor.

XVI. PRESBYTERY OF LYONS.

Ministers.

A. Parke Burgess, D. D. (2),
L. Mason Clarke.
Sybrandt Nelson.

Ruling Elders.

George J. Serven.

XVII. PRESBYTERY OF NASSAU.

Peter D. Oakey,
William S. C. Webster,

Francis Plain.
Edward T. Otis.

XVIII. PRESBYTERY OF NEW YORK.

W. Wallace Atterbury,
Samuel M. Hamilton, D. D.,
Henry M. MacCracken, D. D.,
David G. Wylie,
Frank F. Ellinwood, D. D. (2),
Samuel D. Burchard, D. D.,
Walter D. Buchanan.
George S. Payson.
Edward P. Payson.
William Y. Brown, D. D.

Warner Van Norden.
John C. Tucker.
Hezekiah King.
Henry C. Smith.
Walter Carter.
William Darrow.

XIX. PRESBYTERY OF NIAGARA.

Jeremiah Odell,
Theodore B. Williams.

William Glover.

XX. PRESBYTERY OF NORTH LAOS.

Jonathan Wilson.

XXI. PRESBYTERY OF NORTH RIVER.

Charles E. Bronson,
Jesse F. Shafer,
Thomas C. Clark,
David J. Atwater.
Joseph K. Wight.

Rensselaer Howell
Hugh S. Banks.
Carrol D. Parry.

XXII. PRESBYTERY OF OROOMIAH.

*Ministers.**Ruling Elders.*

XXIII. PRESBYTERY OF OTSEGO.

Horace H. Allen,
Frederick L. Hiller.
Albert C. Bishop.

Sullivan Smith.

XXIV. PRESBYTERY OF ROCHESTER.

Charles S. Durfee,
David R. Eddy,
Charles P. Coit,
F. Swartz Crawford (2),
J. Edward Close.
Levi Parsons, D. D.
Jonathan Copeland (2).

Jesse W. Hatch.
David M. Hough (2).
William A. Brodie.
Daniel Bigelow.

XXV. PRESBYTERY OF ST. LAWRENCE.

L. Merrill Miller, D. D.,
Thomas Dobbin (2),
Rolla G. Bugbee.

DeAlton Dwight.
Alexander B. MacGowan.

XXVI. PRESBYTERY OF SIAM.

XXVII. PRESBYTERY OF STEUBEN.

Marcus N. Preston,
Byron Bosworth,
George R. Smith,

T. Scott Thacher (2).
J. Sumner Sargent.
Lewis P. Wygant.

XXVIII. PRESBYTERY OF SYRACUSE.

David Torrey, D. D.,
William A. Rice,
Legh R. Janes,
Cyrus P. Osborne,
Edward G. Thurber, D. D.,

Pascal M. Dowd, M. D.
Thomas Ellis.
Darwin L. Pickard.
William Russell.
S. Henry Davis (3).

XXIX. PRESBYTERY OF TROY.

Ministers.

Andrew J. Fennel, D. D.,
 John Tatlock, D. D.,
 Alexander B. Riggs.
 T. Elwood Davis.
 George Fairlee.
 Arthur H. Allen.
 Ninian B. Remick.

Ruling Elders.

Daniel B. Howard.
 Theodore E. Button.

XXX. PRESBYTERY OF UTICA.

George Hardy,
 A. Grosvenor Hopkins,
 Robert L. Bachman.
 Charles H. Van Wie.
 James H. Taylor, D. D.
 Isaac O. Best.

Seth K. Blair.
 Allen L. Blue.

XXXI. PRESBYTERY OF WESTCHESTER.

James H. Hoyt,
 William J. Cumming,
 Charles E. Allison,
 Wilson Phraner, D. D.,
 Frederick S. Barnum,
 Harris R. Schenck.
 Thornton M. Niven, Jr., D. D.
 William Hart Dexter.

Ralph E. Prime.
 John G. Clark.
 Stanton Cady.
 Sanford R. Knapp.
 John W. Skinner (2).

The following delegates were absent and were not represented by alternates:

Presbytery of Albany: Elders—William S. Swift, Charles S. Allen, M. D., Howard Pemberton.

Binghamton: Ministers—John McVey, G. Flavel Humphrey; Elders—Frederick F. Peck, Roderick T. Peck.

Boston: Minister—Joseph H. Ralston; Elders—Samuel Mills, Ebenezer M. McPherson, Edward D. Putney.

Brooklyn: Elders—Fred C. Lounsbury, William W. Wickes, James R. Taylor.

Buffalo: Elders—Merritt Brooks, James S. Fowler.

Cayuga: Minister—Charles Anderson; Elders—Lewis Hunt, John C. Shaver.

Champlain: Elders—John R. Edwards, S. Harvey Churchill.

Columbia: Minister—William H. Kelley; Elder—Leonard B. Cornell.

Genesee: Minister—Lindley C. Rutter; Elder—Ezra W. Fuller.

Geneva: Elder—James H. Allen, M. D.

Hudson: Ministers—Thomas Mack, James J. McMahon, John N. Husted; Elders—Benjamin Hull, Zebulon W. Vanderoef.

Long Island: Elder—Dennis K. Halsey.

Lyons: Elders—George H. Stone, Joel R. Foster.

New York: Elders—William Mitchell, Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, A. D. Crane, Joseph H. Allen, M. D.

Niagara: Elder—James G. O. Brown.

North River: Minister—Frederick B. Savage, D. D.; Elders—Henry V. D. Reid, Le Grand K. Wilson, Henry R. Hoyt.

Otsego: Minister—Leonard E. Richards; Elders—Oliver A. Dutcher, James M. Durfee, Ezkill W. Gallup.

Rochester: Minister—John C. Henderson; Elders—Justin S. Goodrich, Frederick Probst, Gerrit S. Casey, Edwin S. Hayward.

St. Lawrence: Minister—Francis R. Wade; Elders—Roswell G. Pettibone, Charles N. Conkey.

Troy: Elders—David Beattie, Horace B. Silliman, Joseph Fox, Calvin B. Sims, James I. Hall.

Utica: Minister—Stanley B. Roberts; Elders—Hudson Bidwell, E. Chauncey Lewis, Homer L. Parmelee, Joseph K. Casterton, Alonzo H. Sumner.

Westchester: Elders—Alexander Wheeler, Edward D. Parsons, Robert Lounsbury.

The Rev. JOSEPH E. NASSAU, D. D., of the Presbytery of Genesee, was elected Moderator.

The Rev. WILLIAM WAITH, of the Presbytery of Buffalo, and the Rev. WALLACE B. LUCAS, of the Presbytery of Cayuga, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The Committee of Arrangements, through its chairman, the Rev. ISAAC JENNINGS, Jr., presented the following recommendations, which were adopted:

1. That the morning sessions begin at nine o'clock, and close at twelve; the first half hour to be spent in devotional services, in accordance with the Standing Rule;

That the afternoon sessions begin at two o'clock, and close at half-past five, except on Wednesday, when a recess of fifteen minutes shall be taken at half-past three o'clock, immediately after which the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper shall be administered under the direction of the Moderator;

That the evening session begin on Wednesday at a quarter before eight o'clock, and on Thursday at half-past seven, and be continued during the pleasure of the Synod.

In behalf of many families living at a distance who entertain delegates, it is requested that there be no infringement upon these limitations of time.

2. That on Wednesday evening a popular meeting be held in behalf of the Educational Work of the Synod, and another on Thursday evening in the interest of Home and Foreign Missions; that the Board of Aid for Colleges and Academies be assigned the hour of half-past eleven A. M., and the Board of Education the hour of three P. M.

on Wednesday; that the New York Sabbath Committee be heard at three o'clock, the Board of Missions for Freedmen at half-past three, and the Board of Church Erection at a quarter before four on Thursday afternoon.

An invitation to visit Elmira College was presented, and accepted with the thanks of the Synod; and arrangements were made for such a visit on Wednesday afternoon, immediately after the Communion service.

The members of the Synod were invited to visit, at their convenience, the rooms of the Railway Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, and the invitation was accepted with the thanks of the Synod.

Adjourned until to-morrow at nine o'clock, A. M.

Closed with prayer.

WEDNESDAY, October 20, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod met, and spent the first half hour in devotional services.

The roll was called, and the following delegates, not previously enrolled, were reported as being present:

Presbytery of Albany: Ministers—John McC. Holmes, D. D.; Elders—Edward P. Durant, Alexander J. Thomson.

Boston: Elder—John Gilchrist.

Brooklyn: Minister—John G. Hehr; Elder—George Hannah.

Buffalo: Elder—George W. Tew.

Genesee Valley: Elder—Alvin B. Webster.

Hudson: Elder—Joseph W. Helm.

Lyons: Minister—A. Parke Burgess, D. D.

New York: Minister—Frank F. Ellinwood, D. D.

Rochester: Ministers—F. Swartz Crawford, Jonathan Copeland; Elder—David M. Hough.

St. Lawrence: Minister—Thomas Dobbin.

Steuben: Elder—T. Scott Thacher.

Westchester: Elder—John W. Skinner.

The Rev. Jonathan Wilson, of the Presbytery of North Laos, present without a commission, was admitted to a seat as a member of the Synod.

The minutes of yesterday's session were read and approved.

Printed copies of the Docket of Business, and of the Minutes of 1885, were distributed.

The Moderator announced the following

STANDING COMMITTEES:

1. BILLS AND OVERTURES:

Ministers—L. Merrill Miller, D. D., John McC. Holmes, D. D., D. Henry Palmer, D. D., Asa S. Fiske, James H. Taylor, D. D., Samuel M. Hamilton, D. D., Andrew J. Fennel, D. D.

Elders—Walter Carter, Chauncey G. Talcott, Edward P. Durant, Ethil C. Sherman, Jesse W. Hatch, Pascal M. Dowd, M. D.

2. JUDICIAL BUSINESS:

Ministers—Charles C. Wallace, D. D., James Gardner, D. D., Levi Parsons, D. D., Edward G. Thurber, D. D., George C. Yeisley, Rufus S. Green, D. D., A. Grosvenor Hopkins.

Elders—Sanford R. Knapp, Charles F. Blood, Stephen M. Clement, Warner Van Norden, Charles E. Merriam, John C. Tucker.

3. MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Ministers—William S. Hubbell, D. D., Robert L. Bachman, Harris R. Schenck.

Elders—William F. Wheeler, J. Sumner Sargent.

4. FINANCE:

Elders—Hezekiah King, William R. Halbert, John H. Lown, Alexander B. MacGowan, Sullivan Smith.

5. SUNDAY-SCHOOL WORK:

Ministers—Leander T. Chamberlain, D. D., Hiram W. Congdon, Horace H. Allen, John Burrows, D. D., Thornton M. Niven, Jr., D. D., Hiram H. Kellogg, Frederick S. Barnum.

Elders—George R. Hunt, J. Alvah Tyler, Brainerd Lyon, Charles G. Brundige, James R. Howe, John W. Skinner.

6. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Ministers—Charles P. Coit, Alvin Cooper, William Hart Dexter.

Elders—Lewis P. Wygant, George J. Serven.

7. NOMINATION OF VISITORS TO THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES:

Ministers—Henry M. MacCracken, D. D., Charles C. Carr, James N. Crocker, D. D., Jeremiah Odell.

Elders—William Darrow, Edward T. Otis, Horace D. Thompson.

8. NOMINATION OF WOMAN'S COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS:

Ministers—Wilson Phraner, D. D., Charles S. Durfee, John F. McLaury, George S. Payson.

Elders—Solomon L. Gillett, James Brew, De Alton Dwight.

9. NOMINATION OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE:

Ministers—William A. Rice, Ninian B. Remick, Martin D. Kneeland, Theodore B. Williams.

Elders—Ralph E. Prime, Daniel B. Howard, Thomas E. Ferrier.

10. NOMINATION OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINERS OF ELMIRA COLLEGE:

Ministers—John Tatlock, D. D., David McLeod, Joseph W. Sanderson, Anson H. Parmelee.

Elders—Martin J. Sunderlin, Benjamin Hathaway, Thomas Ellis.

The Moderator also announced the following

COMMITTEES ON THE RECORDS OF THE PRESBYTERIES:

1. ALBANY: . . . *Ministers*—Nathaniel I. Rubinkam, David I. Biggar; *Elder*—Edwin Weller.

2. BINGHAMTON: . . . *Ministers*—David Beattie, George N. Karner; *Elder*—James H. Foster.

3. BOSTON: . . . *Ministers*—Benjamin F. Millard, Augustus Frederick; *Elder*—John C. Frink.

4. BROOKLYN: . . . *Ministers*—David M. Reeves, D. D., William S. Long; *Elder*—Robert I. Crawford.
5. BUFFALO: . . . *Ministers*—John Rutherford, L. Mason Clarke; *Elder*—Richard Taylor.
6. CAYUGA: . . . *Ministers*—Rufus S. Green, D. D., William S. C. Webster; *Elder*—James C. Bull.
7. CHAMPLAIN: . . . *Ministers*—Alexander Rankin, T. Elwood Davis; *Elder*—Francis Plain.
8. CHEMUNG: . . . *Ministers*—S. Gilbert Boardman, Arthur H. Allen; *Elder*—George Lasher.
9. CHILE: . . . *Ministers*—Charles H. Van Wie, James H. Hoyt; *Elder*—William F. Wheeler.
10. COLUMBIA: . . . *Ministers*—Bryce K. Douglas, David G. Wylie; *Elder*—John C. Tucker.
11. GENESEE: . . . *Ministers*—James N. Crocker, D. D., A. Cameron McKenzie; *Elder*—Stanton Cady.
12. GENESEE VALLEY: *Ministers*—Charles Beattie, Frederick L. Hiller; *Elder*—Henry C. Smith.
13. GENEVA: . . . *Ministers*—Hiram W. Congdon, Legh R. Janes; *Elder*—Charles F. Blood.
14. HUDSON: . . . *Ministers*—Edward P. Payson, Albert Livermore; *Elder*—Hugh S. Banks.
15. LONG ISLAND: . . . *Ministers*—Dewitt G. Rockefeller, Charles H. Park; *Elder*—William Glover.
16. LYONS: . . . *Ministers*—Peter D. Oakey, Walter D. Buchanan; *Elder*—J. Morrison Raynor.
17. NASSAU: . . . *Ministers*—Sybrandt Nelson, Albert C. Bishop; *Elder*—Carrol D. Parry.

18. NEW YORK: . . *Ministers*—Walter Condict, Byron Bosworth;
Elder—Darius S. Orton, M. D.
19. NIAGARA: . . *Ministers*—Charles E. Bronson, David R.
Eddy; *Elder*—Rensselaer Howell.
20. NORTH LAOS: . *Ministers*—William Y. Brown, D. D., Freder-
ick E. Allen; *Elder*—Darwin L. Pickard.
21. NORTH RIVER: . *Ministers*—W. Wallace Atterbury, Raymond
H. Stearns; *Elder*—Daniel Bigelow.
22. OROOMIAH: . . *Ministers*—George Fairlee, Charles E. Alli-
son; *Elder*—George Lasher.
23. OTSEGO: . . . *Ministers*—Samuel Whaley, Jesse F. Shafer;
Elder—Theodore E. Button.
24. ROCHESTER: . . *Ministers*—William Waith, Walter Laidlaw;
Elder—Seth K. Blair.
25. ST. LAWRENCE: *Ministers*—Samuel D. Burchard, D. D.,
George R. Smith; *Elder*—William Russell.
26. SIAM: . . . *Ministers*—Joseph K. Wight, Rolla G. Bug-
bee; *Elder*—William A. Brodie.
27. STEUBEN: . . . *Ministers*—Cyrus P. Osborne, Thomas C.
Clark; *Elder*—Allen L. Blue.
28. SYRACUSE: . . *Ministers*—J. Edward Close, George Hardy;
Elder—John G. Clark.
29. TROY: . . . *Ministers*—Marcus N. Preston, Isaac O. Best;
Elder—James R. Howe.
30. UTICA: . . . *Ministers*—David J. Atwater, William J.
Cumming; *Elder*—Stanton Cady.
31. WESTCHESTER: . *Ministers*—David Torrey, D. D., Alexander
B. Riggs; *Elder*—Edward T. Otis.

The Committee on the Nomination of Visitors to the Theological Seminaries was requested to nominate visitors to other educational institutions in correspondence with the Synod.

Overtures, memorials, appeals and complaints were called for, and the papers presented were placed in the hands of the Stated Clerk for reference to the appropriate committees.

The Records of the Presbyteries were presented on the calling of the roll, and were referred respectively to the committees appointed to examine them.

It was made the first order of business to-morrow to hear the reports on the Records of the Presbyteries.

The Committee on the Condition of the Churches and Mission Work presented its report, which was accepted, and the recommendations, after being amended, were adopted. The report is as follows:

To a circular of inquiry, sent to each Presbytery, twenty-six answers were received, from which the following information is compiled: Number of churches not self-sustaining, 169; vacant churches, 44; vacant for more than one year, 25. The Presbytery of North River will add two to each list; so that a complete summary will give 171 churches out of 793 that are not self-supporting,—more than one-fifth of the whole number. Of these, 46 are without the ministry of the Gospel at present, and 27 have been without any ministry for a year or more. These uncared-for churches, with scarcely an exception, need only the regular and constant ministry of the Gospel to kindle them into steady life and usefulness.

The following additional facts of interest are reported: Albany Presbytery has its general Home Mission work well attended to under the efficient agency of Dr. Crocker, the Synodical Superintendent. It has fields that could be occupied if men and money were secured. Boston Presbytery regards all New England as missionary ground. It has organized four new churches, and five more are soon to be organized with large constituencies. The Rev. Joseph W. Sanderson is the Superintendent of this field. Buffalo Presbytery reports a Presbyterian Union which is doing effective work in the city and suburbs, in fostering new enterprises, reviving old ones, and looking after the interests of the denomination. It has an "outlook committee" which endeavors to discover and disclose the best channels for Presbyterian enterprise. Two new churches of promise have been organized and equipped. A valuable piece of property, with a chapel, has been secured in the heart of the old business portion of the city, and the interests of the denomination in the city are looked after with great fidelity. Attempt has also been made by this Presbytery to encourage the weak and pastorless churches in some of the country villages, by sending to them, for a Sabbath, city pastors from the strong churches, who have carried the greeting of these churches, have preached, visited the sick, and sought to promote fellowship between the larger and smaller flocks, and between country and town. This is done under the supervision of the Presbyterial Committees on Vacant Churches and Home Missions. The report says: "We have reason to hope that new courage has been given to the disheartened,

and that new ties have been formed between ministers and churches practically strangers to each other before."

In Cayuga Presbytery a church that has been closed for years has now a pastor, as a result of the united efforts of Rev. Asa S. Fiske of Ithaca, and the Superintendent, Dr. Crocker. Champlain Presbytery has a field for mission work in the new lumber and mining regions of the Adirondacks. A Brooklyn pastor taking his vacation at Everton, Franklin County, did excellent mission work there last summer, and a church may be the outcome. Though Columbia has ten churches not self-supporting, yet, by a wise system of grouping, they are all supplied with the ministry except one that is isolated and very weak. This Presbytery has arranged for a series of evangelistic services during the coming winter. Genesee is so fortunate as to have among its members "a brother who is well qualified, and who has the time and the disposition, to look after the interests" of its needy fields. It has been obliged, however, to disband one church on account of its numbers being depleted by removals and deaths, and the occupying of the ground by other denominations. Geneva is largely a rural Presbytery, and most of the churches are large and thrifty. Long Island Presbytery has a field for missionary work in the center of the island, above Holbrook, which has been worked for three months by a student from Union Seminary. In Lyons Presbytery, a layman from one of the self-supporting churches goes regularly to a feeble church in the neighborhood, on Sabbath afternoon, holds services, and sustains a Sunday-school. Nassau Presbytery calls attention to an uncultivated field at Long Island City. "It has a large and fast-increasing population. Being adjacent to New York and Brooklyn it has an important future. We have no church there, and as far as is known no material for a church. Yet the seeds of Presbyterianism should be sown there and grow with its growth, that when the City shall become a center of power and influence, the power and influence of our Church may not be absent. But if anything is done there it will have to be done by the independent action of the Synod or Board of Home Missions, as the means of the Presbytery are totally inadequate."

Otsego Presbytery has one mission field in the lower Catskills that might be occupied if it had the man, and the means to support him. The Superintendent has "visited there among the families, and preached in a school-house to all that could get in, and to others standing outside. In the Delaware Valley, in Delaware County, there is plenty of work." Rochester Presbytery has organized one new church at Piffard. St. Lawrence Presbytery has a large district, with a scattered population, in St. Lawrence County, where good can be done and destitution supplied. In Jefferson County the same is true at Redwood and vicinity. Some of the churches are far from each other, so that grouping is out of the question. On the whole the condition of the churches is more favorable than when last year's report was made. Syracuse Presbytery has two or three localities that call for cultivation, and reports "some fruitful and reviving work in one or two fields, and a new desire on the part of those who have been destitute to be supplied." Troy Presbytery regards one of its churches as nearly extinct; and yet one who has often felt the pulse of such moribund churches declares that if we had the man and the money it might be made the basis of a needed mission, reaching out into the Adirondack region. Utica Presbytery has been interested in the erection of a mission chapel at Northwood on the edge of the Adirondack wilderness, in Herkimer County. One church in vigorous life, which, by oversight, was lost from the roll at the time of the Reunion, has been discovered by the Superintendent and restored to its place.

It is apparent that the reports do not tell the whole amount of the demands upon Presbyterian resources within the bounds of the Synod. With a single exception no

facts have been given with regard to the work in our great cities, where there are swarms of people who are as sheep without a shepherd, for whose care our Church has its mission of responsibility.

It is a matter of common observation and remark that our country districts are not as well looked after as they once were, and that in many instances they are left, undisturbed by the ministrations of the Gospel, to godlessness and demoralization.

While the annual reports of our churches to the Assembly show that, for the most part, they are in good working order and vigorously alive, and while the general summary shows a decided advance, the facts concerning the weaker portion of them and the fields calling for cultivation are such as to awaken our deep concern and demand our serious consideration.

It is recommended:

1. That the self-supporting churches of our Synod, both in city and country, be enjoined to extend sympathy and help to the weaker churches in their neighborhoods; and also to do their utmost towards supplying with gospel ministrations any district without such ministrations that may lie within their reach.

2. That we commend the example of those churches that have been willing to yield a portion of the time and services of their pastors that they may minister to the pastorless and neglected, and also the example of those laymen who have gone out from stronger congregations to do gospel work in more needy places.

The following Ruling Elders were appointed to assist the Moderator at the Communion Service this afternoon: Stephen M. Clement, Andrew W. Morehouse, Charles F. Blood, Martin J. Sunderlin, Walter Carter, William A. Brodie, Seth K. Blair, Stanton Cady.

It was

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to recommend a plan for utilizing the gifts and graces of laymen in doing evangelistic work among the feeble and vacant churches within the bounds of the Synod.

The Committee was appointed as follows: *Ministers*—James Gardner, D. D., Charles J. Jones, D. D., Charles E. Allison; *Elders*—Water Carter, Richard Taylor.

The following papers, reported by the Stated Clerk, were referred to the appropriate committees, namely:

To the Committee on Bills and Overtures:

An Overture from the Presbytery of Genesee Valley.

To the Committee on Judicial Business:

An appeal of Amasa R. Moore, from a decision of the Presbytery of Troy; An appeal of George N. Smith, from a decision of the Presbytery of Geneva, and his complaint against certain action of the Presbytery; A complaint of the Session of the Sixth Church, Albany, against the Presbytery of Albany; A complaint and appeal of Charles H. Ellis, by his counsel, pertaining to the same case; An appeal of William Ingleby, from a decision of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley.

The Rev. Messrs. Hervey D. Ganse, D. D., of the Synod of Missouri, and Henry Kendall, D. D., and Samuel J. Fisher, of the Synod of Pennsylvania, being present, were invited to sit as Corresponding Members.

In pursuance of the order of the day, the Rev. Hervey D. Ganse, D. D., addressed the Synod in behalf of the Board of Aid for Colleges and Academies.

The Committee appointed last year on "Religion and Public Education," presented its report, which was accepted. A minority report, and a supplementary report were also presented and accepted.

Pending their consideration, a recess was taken until two o'clock, P. M.

Closed with prayer.

WEDNESDAY, October 20, 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met, and was opened with prayer.

The Rev. Messrs. A. Grosvenor Hopkins, Edward G. Thurber, D. D., David Torrey, D. D., and Elders Warner Van Norden and Stephen M. Clement, were appointed a Committee to consider propositions relating to Whitestown Seminary.

The unfinished business was resumed, and the reports on "Religion and Public Education" were recommitted, with instructions to the Committee to report at the next meeting of the Synod.

It was made the second order of business to-morrow to hear the report of the Committee on a Plan for Sustentation.

A proposed Overture to the General Assembly on the subject of Ministerial Support was presented, and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Committee on Systematic Beneficence and the Work of the Church, presented its report, which was accepted.

Pending its consideration, the Rev. Ephraim Whitaker, D. D., in accordance with the order of the day, addressed the Synod in behalf of the Board of Education.

A recess was taken for fifteen minutes.

After the recess, the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered in accordance with arrangement.

A recess was taken until a quarter before eight o'clock, P. M.

Closed with prayer.

WEDNESDAY, October 20, 7.45 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee of Visitors to the University of the City of New York presented its report.

Addresses were made by Rev. Henry M. MacCracken, D. D., Vice-Chancellor of the University, on Higher Education in the State of New York; by Rev. James Gardner, D. D., and Rev. Wilson Phraner, D. D., in behalf of Elmira College; and by Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., LL. D., the President of Hamilton College.

Adjourned until to-morrow at nine o'clock, A. M.

Closed with prayer.

THURSDAY, October 21, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod met, and spent the first half hour in devotional services.

The roll was called, and the following delegate, not previously enrolled, was reported as being present:

Presbytery of Syracuse: Elder—S. Henry Davis.

The minutes of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was presented, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

An invitation was presented to the members of the Synod to visit, at their convenience, the New York State Reformatory, and was accepted with the thanks of the Synod.

The Committee on Judicial Business presented a report which was adopted, and is as follows:

The committee has considered:

Judicial Case No. 1.—A Complaint of the Session of the Sixth Church, Albany, against the action of the Presbytery of Albany concerning the case of Mrs. Emma J. Patterson. The committee finds the Complaint in order, and recommends that it be entertained, and referred to a Commission of the Synod for final adjudication, according to Chap. xiii. of the revised Book of Discipline.

The committee also recommends that the Commission be constituted as follows:

Ministers—Robert L. Bachman, Hiram W. Congdon, Charles Beattie, A. Cameron McKenzie, George S. Payson, Harris R. Schenck, George N. Karner; *Elders*—Charles G. Brundige, Jesse W. Hatch, John C. Tucker, John Gilchrist, Solomon L. Gillett, De Alton Dwight.

Judicial Case No. 2.—A Complaint and Appeal of Charles H. Ellis in the same case. The committee finds the papers in order, and recommends that the Complaint and Appeal be entertained, and referred to the same Commission.

Judicial Case No. 3.—An Appeal of George N. Smith from a decision of the Presbytery of Geneva, accompanied by a Complaint. The committee finds the Appeal and Complaint in order, and recommends that they be entertained, and referred for final adjudication to the following Commission: *Ministers*—Peter D. Oakey, Charles C. Carr, William Y. Brown, D. D., Charles S. Durfee, J. Edward Close, Joseph K. Wight, Samuel Whaley; *Elders*—Ralph E. Prime, William A. Brodie, John G. Clark, Pascal M. Dowd, M. D., Sullivan Smith, Edward T. Otis.

The Report of the Committee of Visitors to the University of the City of New York, which was presented last evening, was accepted, and is as follows:

All the members of the committee were present in the Council Chamber of the University, April 20.

Having had the pleasure of attendance, with the under-graduates, at morning prayers in the chapel, the committee visited, in order, the departments of Physics, Political Science, Geology, and Natural History, Greek and Latin, besides making the tour of the Library, the Observatory, the Museum, the Laboratory, and the other rooms devoted to educational use. Every possible facility was offered for a thorough inspection of both methods and results.

Your committee expresses its unanimous approval of the general course of instruction and government, its appreciation of the learning and ability of the professors and

instructors, and its commendation of the gentlemanly, scholarly spirit which marked the bearing and recitations of the students. It was demonstrated to us anew that the ideal of a home of sound learning, a noble school of literature and science and art, in the very heart of a great city, is wholly practicable. So far as could be discerned, the surroundings of business and pleasure offered no hinderance to study, while, on the other hand, their presence seemed to suggest, with peculiar emphasis, that the student was to fit himself for a due share in practical affairs, and was to make his learning of service to his fellow-men.

The committee was strongly and delightfully impressed with the evident purpose of Council and Faculty alike, to make the University subserve the ends of a symmetrical and thorough culture. It was a pleasure to visit an Institution which is determined to do well whatever it undertakes, and one which still holds that the highest academic models of the past are worthy of reverent regard; an Institution which allies literature with science and seeks no expulsion of the classics from the course of liberal study. It was with great satisfaction also, that the committee learned of an enlarged plan of post-graduate studies, and of students intending to avail themselves of the advantage offered. Special attention is called to the plan as now developed.

The University has reflected honor upon itself, and opened noble facilities to the lovers of learning, by this enlargement of post-graduate studies.

Especially was the committee gratified with the University's open, unhesitating loyalty to Christian truth. To the Bible, to Christ, the University owns full allegiance. Divine wisdom is acknowledged to be the common bond—the *commune vinculum*—which unites the many realms of knowledge, even as it constitutes their glory and their crown. A distinguished Bishop of this State has recently said, in a public address:

“It is beyond dispute that the current in our higher, and in our lower education as well, is drifting away from the Church's historic faith, and if from this, then equally from the ethics founded upon that faith. Our leading educational centers are beginning to throw off all restraint or disguise, in their admissions on this point. With increasing frankness and assurance they tell us that it is no part of their business to teach, in any form or way, the positive truths of Christianity. They have not progressed far enough in their favorite line to treat Christianity with disrespect. They still imply, rather than say, that so venerable a presence should be allowed what room it needs. They have no objection to handling the faiths of the past as anatomists handle dead bodies. But for the faith that is alive they make no provision, and repudiate all obligation. Thus in these high places of scholastic liberalism, every creed has a voice, but no creed is taught; every school of opinion has a hearing, but no religious truth is stamped upon the mind and heart with the seal of authority.”

In the light of such statements, it is occasion of devout gratitude that the University of the City of New York is still true to the faith. In these days of both latent and professed agnosticism, such an openly Christian University deserves grateful and generous support. The committee trusts that such support, both moral and financial, will be bestowed.

The Department of Arts and Sciences,—and the same is true of other departments,—greatly needs additional endowment. Possibly it seemed to some, at the time, that the cutting loose from the former nominal connection between the University and the city government of New York was not only bold but rash. Yet the exchanging of that barren relation for a free, permanent, effective alliance with the Presbyterian and Reformed churches of our State, will surely prove to be both safe and wise.

The committee, therefore, earnestly, unanimously, bespeaks for the University of the City of New York the prayers and gifts of the Christians and the churches of our fellowship, and the fostering care of the Synod itself.

The Committee on Finance presented the following report, which was accepted, and its recommendations were adopted:

The committee has examined the accounts of the Treasurer, and compared them with the accompanying vouchers, and finds the same correct. The amount in the treasury, applicable to the expenses of the current year, is \$1,018.55.

It is recommended that the rate of apportionment for the coming year be one-half cent for each communicant.

It is also recommended that a bill of expenses, presented by the Committee on Religion and Public Education, amounting to \$15.15, be paid by the Treasurer out of the Synodical fund.

A resolution concerning the amendment of the Marriage Laws of the State of New York; an overture from the Presbytery of Chemung; and a memorial from a member of the Presbytery of Champlain, were presented, and were referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The following persons were added to the Committee on Religion and Public Education: The Rev. Messrs. Howard Crosby, D. D., LL.D., Henry M. MacCracken, D. D., Charles H. Parkhurst, D. D., Prof. John J. Stevenson, and Hon. Theodore W. Dwight, LL.D.

The General Assembly's exception and reference, concerning certain action taken by the Synod last year, were referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures [Minutes of the Assembly, 1886, p. 111].

The Committees appointed to examine the Records of the following Presbyteries reported, recommending that the Records severally be approved, as far as written, namely: Albany, Binghamton, Boston, Buffalo, Champlain, Chemung, Columbia, Genesee, Genesee Valley, Geneva, Long Island, Lyons, Nassau, New York, Niagara, North Laos, North River, Otsego, Rochester, St. Lawrence, Steuben, Troy, Utica and Westchester.

The reports were adopted.

The Committee on the Records of the Presbytery of Syracuse reported, recommending their approval, as far as written, with the following exceptions:

1. On page 156, the Records of the Church of Lafayette are said to be approved "with one exception." The exception should be stated.

2. On page 164, a report is written with pencil, and a full half page is left blank below it. The record should be in ink, and no such blank spaces should be left.

3. On page 173, it is recorded that the Constitutional questions were *duly* answered. It is inferred, from the subsequent action, that they were answered affirmatively; but "duly" does not necessarily mean "affirmatively."

The report was adopted.

The Committee on the Records of the Presbytery of Brooklyn reported, recommending their approval as far as written, with the following exception:

Exception is taken to what seems an erroneous conclusion to a recent judicial case. In that case the defendant was found guilty, "First, of laying violent hands on his wife during the month of February, 1886, and so choking her that her screams of 'murder' were heard by the neighbors, and that she seriously feared fatal injuries from his hands, and bore the dents of his fingers upon her throat for hours. Second, of allowing, against the protest and entreaties of his wife, a woman to remain for many weeks in his house, and of bestowing such attentions upon this woman, and receiving such attentions from her as to make his wife very unhappy, and to give her good reason to suspect his faithfulness to her as her husband."

The records show that, after finding him guilty of these things, and rebuking him, a confession of his, made at the time, was found satisfactory, and he was allowed to retain charge of his church.

It appears to your committee that the acceptance of his confession as satisfactory, and the instantaneous remission of exemplary punishment, should not pass without exception. For, either he confessed his guilt and so proclaimed himself unfit to return immediately to his charge; or he did not confess his guilt and so traversed the finding of the court; and the acceptance of his confession as satisfactory by the court was the reversal of their own finding.

The report was adopted.

The consideration of the report on Systematic Beneficence and the Work of the Church, was resumed, and its recommendations were adopted. The report is as follows:

The Synod of New York for the year ending May 1, 1886, gave \$620,678 to the objects represented by the Boards of the Church, a gain over last year of \$76,602. This is an average of \$4.34 for the 142,878 communicants in our Churches, showing an increase of \$1.15 over the average of the 139,048 members of the year previous.

The showing in detail is as follows:

Decrease.		Increase.	
Education.....	\$5,446	Home Missions.....	\$23,608
Freedmen.....	3,372	Foreign Missions.....	32,443
Sustentation.....	253	Publication.....	120
		Church Erection.....	25,413
		Relief Fund.....	708
		Aid for Colleges.....	3,381
Total.....	\$9,071	Total.....	\$85,673
			9,071
		Net gain.....	\$76,602

The "Miscellaneous" column, on the other hand, shows a decrease of \$86,018, the figures being, for 1885, \$328,810, and for 1886, \$242,792. If this indicates that our Boards, as compared with outside objects of benevolence, are securing a stronger hold upon the affections of the Church, the diminution may be regarded as an encouraging sign. It has become a question of serious import whether our gifts to miscellaneous objects ought longer to reach the extent of permitting our denominational work to languish for lack of the funds necessary for its efficient prosecution. Our Boards are crippled because of empty treasuries and crushing debts; while hundreds of thousands of dollars are given freely to undenominational enterprises. We advocate no narrow sectarianism. On the contrary, we rejoice in the catholicity of the Presbyterian spirit, which sympathizes with every worthy work under whatever name. But we ought not to neglect to build over against our own house. The walls of Jerusalem go up most rapidly by postponing aid to our neighbors until we have done our own work. We accomplish the most for the Church Universal when we strengthen our own Zion.

In connection with this it should be borne in mind, that the "Miscellaneous" column in the Minutes of the General Assembly does not represent all of our gifts, even to miscellaneous objects. The Board columns and the annual reports of the Boards themselves show wide divergencies. For example, in the Minutes for 1886 the gifts of this Synod to Home Missions are \$239,527, whereas the contributions sent directly to the treasury of the Board were \$165,660, a difference of \$73,867. For Foreign Missions the difference is \$57,215; for Education \$19,601, etc. At least \$400,000 have been given, the past year, by this Synod, to outside objects, while our Boards have remained burdened with debt, or hampered by empty treasuries.

Your committee is gratified, however, with the evidence it has found of growing loyalty to our own benevolent work, as seen not only in increased contributions, but also in the more general filling of the blanks. Attention has been called to this latter subject in previous reports. It ought not yet to be dropped from sight. Presbyterial Committees should give it special attention. Still it is a question if the time has not come for turning the major part of our energies in another direction. A considerable number of our churches are either dead or dying. Stars mark their names upon the roll. Contributions from them cannot be expected. In many of our weaker congregations pastors themselves contribute, to ensure the filling of all the blanks. Again, some of the strongest churches decline to give to such an object, for instance, as Sustentation, which, wisely or unwisely, they think has outlived its usefulness. Is not the Church reaching higher than merely to aim at filling all the blanks? Your committee believes it is; and points for proof to the adoption, by the vote of a large majority of the Presbyteries, of a new chapter in the Directory of Worship, on "The Worship of God by Offerings."

This advanced action places our Church, in theory, alongside the teaching of Holy Writ. It makes giving as much a part of worship as prayer. "Thy prayers and thine alms"—twin acts of worship—"are come up for a memorial before God." (Acts 10:4.) It leads us back to the Scriptural requirement to "bring an offering and come into his courts." It fully meets the provisions of the Apostolic rule, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him." It recognizes the great principle of stewardship. It quickens the conscience not merely to respond to pathetic appeals, even though these be the pressing necessities of our Boards, but to find its all-sufficient incentive in giving for Christ's sake, that He may "see of the travail of his soul and be satisfied."

How many of the members of those churches even which have filled every blank, have reached this plane of systematic, proportionate, worshipful giving? Many,

doubtless; but, in comparison with the whole number, how few! Giving, at present, is too largely a haphazard affair, dependent upon weather, feelings, eloquent appeals, and other contingencies. The new chapter in the Directory makes the Church right in theory. Let us see that practice harmonizes with theory. Presbyterian Committees, pastors and Sessions will find here a more fruitful field to cultivate, where the need of cultivation is greater, and from which a larger harvest of spiritual as well as material good may be gathered. There is no more needful lesson for the Church to learn to-day than that of the responsibility of Christian stewardship.

Your committee submits the following recommendations:

1. That the recommendations adopted by the Synod last year be reaffirmed. (Minutes of 1885, p. 35.)

2. That pastors be requested to set apart the second Lord's Day (the 14th) of November, 1886, or, if for local reasons the choice of another day should be more practicable, one as near that date as possible, for presenting and urging the claims of systematic and proportionate giving.

3. That Church Sessions be directed to introduce, as speedily as possible, into the services of the Lord's house, the principles and provisions of the new chapter in our Directory, on "The Worship of God by Offerings."

4. That Churches be exhorted, in the distribution of their gifts, to have due regard first of all to the great work and needs of our Church Boards.

5. That every church member, the young as well as the old, the poor equally with the rich, be affectionately urged to adopt proportionate giving as a rule of his life and a principle of his Christian stewardship.

6. That it be enjoined on Pastors and Church Sessions to inform the people, carefully, of the operations of the several Boards, explaining the nature of their work, communicating such details of the same as may be of interest, and stating explicitly the use made of the money contributed by the people.

The committee also reported a Pastoral Letter, addressed to the Presbyteries and churches, as provided by the tenth Standing Rule. It was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes, and to be read from the pulpits of the Synod.

It was

Resolved, that, recognizing the efforts to reform the inmates of our prisons and reformatories as a part of Christ's work on earth, it be recommended to our pastors to preach, where practicable, on the claims of this work, on the next Lord's Day, which has been designated as "Prisoners' Sunday."

The Committee on Judicial Business presented the following report, which was adopted:

The committee has considered:

Judicial Case No. 4.—An appeal of Elder Amasa R. Moore from a decision of the Presbytery of Troy; also

Judicial Case No. 5.—An appeal of Mr. William Ingleby from a decision of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley.

The committee finds the appeals to be in order, and recommends that both be referred for final adjudication to a Judicial Commission, constituted as follows:

Ministers—Rufus S. Green, D. D., D. Henry Palmer, D. D., Thornton M. Niven, Jr., D. D., Sybrandt Nelson, David J. Atwater, Albert C. Bishop, James H. Taylor, D. D.; *Elders*—Pascal M. Dowd, M. D., J. Sumner Sargent, James H. Foster, William R. Halbert, Brainerd Lyon, Benjamin Hathaway.

The Committee on a Plan for Sustentation presented a report, which was accepted, and, after consideration, was recommitted.

The Rev. Joseph H. Ralston, a delegate from the Presbytery of Boston, and Elder Charles S. Allen, a delegate from the Presbytery of Albany, communicated reasons for their absence from the present sessions of the Synod.

The Records of the Presbyteries of Chile, Oroomiah and Siam not having been presented, it was

Resolved, that the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries in foreign lands, connected with this Synod, be instructed to send, without fail, full abstracts of the Minutes of their Presbyteries, annually, in time to be submitted to the inspection of the Synod.

A recess was taken until 2 o'clock, P. M.

Closed with prayer.

THURSDAY, October 21, 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on a Plan for Sustentation presented an amended report, which was adopted, and is as follows:

The committee appointed to formulate a plan for the support of weak churches within the bounds of the Synod of New York has been deeply impressed with the importance of the work entrusted to its care. Our feeble churches, especially in the rural districts, are the real sources of supply for our City and Western churches, and hence have a valid claim upon the sympathy and support of the entire denomination. These ministrations have hitherto been rendered with singular efficiency and liberality by the Board of Home Missions. For the maintenance of weak churches in the older Synods, a sum approximating \$100,000 has annually been taken from the treasury of the Home Board. This Board, surveying the entire field of its operations, and appreciating the large drafts made upon its income for the support of feeble churches in the older States, arrived three years ago at the conclusion that the wealthy Synods of

the East ought to support their own weak churches, and thus enable the Board to prosecute more vigorously its aggressive work in the West. This conclusion it formulated in its report to the General Assembly. The same year the Assembly approved the suggestions of the Board, and commended them to the older Synods; while two years ago the Synod of New York so far accepted the recommendation of the General Assembly as to appoint a committee to formulate plans of work.

The committee has given to the subject careful study and earnest thought. It has freely advised with the officers and members of the Board of Home Missions, and it has consulted personally and by correspondence those who in contiguous Synods have been charged with the same responsibility. It has thus collected important information respecting the point at issue, and has arrived at definite conclusions with reference to the duty of the Synod.

In the judgment of the committee, the large and wealthy Synod of New York ought not to support its weak churches at the expense of the Board of Home Missions, or by funds contributed to that Board for distinctively missionary purposes. The support of old churches in the East and the planting of new churches in the West are two distinct phases of Christian effort which ought not to be confounded. All the money now given for Home Missions should be expended in aggressive work. The sums devoted to the support of feeble churches in the East should be so much additional.

At the same time the committee is equally impressed with the fact that the management and disbursement of funds contributed for the support of our weak churches in the East should be entrusted to the Board of Home Missions. That Board has hitherto cared for these churches, and possesses singular fitness and facilities for the work. With comparatively little additional effort and expense it can continue to exercise this care, and your committee is firm in the conviction that the work can be done better by the Board of Home Missions than by any other Board or Committee which the Synod could create.

To realize the results, however, which Synodical support of our weak churches is intended to effect, there must be no decrease in the contributions of our churches to the Board of Home Missions. Whatever is raised for this purpose must be quite apart from, and additional to the amount now given to this Board. Nothing would be gained if a single collection taken for Home Missions were divided—one part of it being applied to the maintenance of old churches in the East, and the other part to the planting of new churches in the West. In the judgment of your committee, therefore, the funds for these two departments of Christian beneficence should be raised by different methods. The distinctively Home Mission funds should be secured, as now, by the systematic contributions of the churches, while the funds required for the support of our weak churches should be obtained by an apportionment among the Presbyteries.

In view of the considerations thus suggested, your committee recommends to the Synod the following plan of action:

WHEREAS, The Board of Home Missions, in its annual report to the General Assembly in 1883 (Minutes of 1883, page 753), suggested that "it would be well for the large and wealthy Synod of New York to undertake the support of its own weak churches, by special contributions"; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly (Minutes of 1883, page 603), commended to this Synod "the suggestions of the Board of Home Missions in regard to Sustentation, as found on page 20 of its annual report"; and

WHEREAS, The Synod of New York, with its 793 churches and its 142,878 communicants, is abundantly able to support all the weak churches within its bounds, without lessening in the least its contributions to the Board of Home Missions for aggressive work in the West; therefore,

Resolved, That the Synod of New York will comply with the recommendation of the General Assembly; and "undertake the support of its own weak churches," pursuant to the following

PLAN FOR SUSTENTATION.

I. That the work thus undertaken by the Synod may in no sense interfere with the general work of the Board of Home Missions, every church in the Synod is enjoined to make, annually, as heretofore, a contribution to the funds of said Board.

II. The moneys raised for the purposes hereinafter specified shall be called The New York Synodical Aid Fund, and shall take the place of the former contributions to the "Sustentation Department" of the Board of Home Missions.

III. The management of this fund shall be entrusted to the Board of Home Missions, which Board shall be requested to report to the Synod at each of its annual sessions the work of the past year, and at the same time submit, for the consideration and approval of the Synod, plans and estimates for the year to come.

IV. Until otherwise ordered by the Synod, and with the concurrence of the Board of Home Missions, the contributions to the New York Synodical Aid Fund shall be forwarded to the Treasurer of that Board, and he shall be the Treasurer of the Fund.

V. Every church desiring assistance from the New York Synodical Aid Fund shall apply to the Presbytery to which it belongs, giving a full statement of its circumstances and condition, and the amount needed to insure the support of its minister. In case the Presbytery decides that the aid asked for is necessary, the Home Mission Committee of the Presbytery shall recommend the church and its minister to the Board of Home Missions, coupling with the recommendation a statement of the amount of the appropriation required.

VI. The Chairman of the Home Mission Committee in each Presbytery shall, on or before the first day of September in each year, send to the Board of Home Missions an estimate of the appropriations needed by the weak churches in his Presbytery for the coming year, in order that the Board, upon a review of the same, may inform the Synod, at its session in October, what is the total amount necessary to be raised.

VII. The ministers of the aid-receiving churches shall forward to the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions at the close of every quarter, from the date of their appointment, a full report of their ministerial labors as the basis of information to be communicated to the Synod. Upon the reception of such quarterly report, the Treasurer of the Board of Home Missions shall, as soon as the funds will admit, forward to said ministers the amount due them for the past quarter, on account of the appropriation previously determined by the Board.

VIII. In accordance with the instructions of the General Assembly (Minutes of 1883, page 644), it is recommended that the salaries of those in charge of aided churches shall be so proportioned as to give in each case an adequate support. Under this plan, until otherwise ordered by the Synod, the minimum salary of those doing full work shall be \$700. The parsonage, if any, shall be reckoned, at the annual rental value, as a part of the salary. Special arrangements may be made with those doing partial work.

IX. It is recommended that all ministers serving churches which receive aid from this fund shall be installed as pastors as soon as practicable. It is expected also that churches receiving aid will contribute annually, as is the duty of all our churches, not only to this fund, but to all the Boards and Funds of the Church.

X. Churches which are aided from the New York Synodical Aid Fund shall be served only by ministers approved by the Presbytery with which the churches are connected.

XI. In order to the effective prosecution of this plan, and also to an increased and thorough evangelization of our field, by the reviving of old churches and the organization of new ones, it is recommended that this Synod, with the exception of that part of it included in the territory covered by the Presbytery of Boston, be divided into two districts, and that for each of these districts there be appointed a Synodical Superintendent of weak and vacant churches and mission fields.

XII. The first of these districts shall consist of the Presbyteries of Albany, Binghamton, Brooklyn, Champlain, Columbia, Hudson, Long Island, Nassau, New York, North River, Otsego, St. Lawrence, Troy, Utica and Westchester.

The second district shall consist of the Presbyteries of Buffalo, Cayuga, Chemung, Genesee, Genesee Valley, Geneva, Lyons, Niagara, Rochester, Steuben and Syracuse.

XIII. The Synodical Superintendents for these districts shall be appointed by the Synod at a salary not to exceed \$1,500 per year, and expenses while on the field; the same to be paid quarterly out of the Synodical Aid Fund. They shall act in each Presbytery on the invitation, and under the direction of the Committee of that Presbytery having charge of its weak and vacant churches, and shall devote their time and efforts to the encouragement of weak churches, the procuring of pastors or supplies for vacant churches, the organization of new churches, and the general fostering and development of Presbyterianism throughout their respective districts. They shall report the results of their labors to the Synod at each of its annual sessions.

XIV. The Synod, at each annual session, shall apportion the amount which it approves for the next year, among the several Presbyteries of the Synod included in this plan, according to the number of communicants. Each Presbytery is recommended to apportion the amount assigned as its quota, among the churches within its bounds, according to the financial ability of the churches. For the first year, it is recommended that this apportionment among the Presbyteries be fifteen cents per member, as follows:

Albany, ...	\$1,331 70	Nassau, ...	\$ 407 85
Binghamton, ...	503 40	New York, ...	2,938 50
Brooklyn, ...	2,137 50	Niagara, ...	427 35
Buffalo, ...	870 30	North River, ...	706 35
Cayuga, ...	597 50	Otsego, ...	411 00
Champlain, ...	267 30	Rochester, ...	1,377 30
Chemung, ...	370 95	St. Lawrence, ...	556 20
Columbia, ...	295 65	Steuben, ...	366 45
Genesee, ...	415 35	Syracuse, ...	799 05
Genesee Valley, ...	195 45	Troy, ...	1,067 25
Geneva, ...	667 20	Utica, ...	981 60
Hudson, ...	870 15	Westchester, ...	920 55
Long Island, ...	484 20		
Lyons, ...	384 15	Total, ...	\$20,410 35

XV. This plan shall take effect May 1, 1887.

The Committee on the Records of the Presbytery of Hudson reported, recommending that they be approved as far as written, with the following exception:

It is of questionable propriety for the Presbytery, in its Minutes (see p. 225), to refer to any "error of doctrine or life" whereof an accepted candidate to membership in the Presbytery may have been guilty before becoming a member of the body.

The committee farther reported that its attention had been called to objections made by a member of this Presbytery to certain of its acts, and recommended the following answer:

1. A resolution that no one shall be eligible (as a Commissioner to the Assembly), save a pastor of a church: It is doubtful whether a Presbytery has the right to discriminate in this manner against any class of its members, by a general rule. Evangelists, professors, etc., may be doing work as essential to the welfare of the Presbytery as that of a pastor or elder. These persons, moreover, help to constitute the number which entitles the Presbytery to a larger representation than it otherwise would have, and therefore they should be eligible as Commissioners. While the rule may be proper in Scotch Presbyteries, where every member is either a pastor or a ruling elder, it must work injustice in any American Presbytery.

2. That these delegates shall be chosen in alphabetical order: While any Presbytery may have a right to adopt such a rule for its guidance, the wisdom of it is doubtful.

3. The dismissal of a pastor and the installation of his successor, at one and the same meeting of the Presbytery: Such action cannot be regarded as unconstitutional, as the objection alleges. It is hasty, and might be objectionable as a general rule. But the expense and difficulty involved in the gathering of the Presbytery at Ramapo, where the action occurred, may be held to relieve the body from any blame in this particular case.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on the Records of the Presbytery of Cayuga reported, recommending their approval as far as written, with the following exceptions:

1. There are many erasures and interlineations. Proper names are written frequently with initials only. The anomalous form "Revs." is employed uniformly instead of the correct one, "Rev. Messrs."

2. On page 281, the Presbytery appoints a Commission to ordain. This is an act which the Presbytery alone is competent to perform.

3. On pages 278 and 279, exception is taken to the Records of the Church of Cayuga "because there are no memoranda of the public reception of members into the Church."

4. On page 310, an elder of the Presbytery of Lyons, is invited to sit as a Corresponding Member. An elder, not being a member of a Presbytery, except when delegated by a vote of the Session, cannot become a Corresponding Member of another Presbytery.

5. The Presbytery (see pages 335 and following), ordained a licentiate of another Presbytery who did not present a certificate of his being a licentiate under the care of that Presbytery. This was confessedly an irregularity (see pages 339 and

340). While the difficulties of the case are appreciated fully, and all honor is due the Presbytery for its diligent effort to secure the necessary certificate, the manifest irregularity cannot be approved.

The report was adopted.

The Committee appointed to consider a proposition relating to Whitestown Seminary, presented the following report, which was adopted:

The property of Whitestown Seminary can be purchased for the sum of \$18,500, a price which, in the judgment of experts, is less than one-half the intrinsic value of the property. This purchase would secure to the Presbyterian Church an institution admirably located, and one which already has an honorable history and a wide-spread reputation. The committee agrees with the report of a committee of the Presbytery of Utica, unanimously adopted, urging the importance of securing the Whitestown property, and of placing it under the control of the Synod of New York.

Moreover, in view of the fact that, notwithstanding many obstacles in the way of rapid progress and prompt action, more than two-thirds of the amount necessary for the purchase of the property has already been secured, it seems highly desirable that the Synod should now take such action as will enable those who have hitherto labored in this enterprise to complete the work which they have begun. It is, therefore, recommended:

1. That a committee of nine persons be appointed immediately by this Synod, with power to purchase the Whitestown Seminary property as soon as the full amount shall have been secured, requisite for the said purchase, and a good title can be obtained, free from all debt or any incumbrance whatsoever.

2. That this committee of nine be authorized to draw from the parties who now hold funds in trust for the said purchase, subject to the order of the Synod, or who shall hereafter hold them, all such funds, that they may be applied to the said purchase.

3. That the said committee of nine, in case of the purchase of the property, shall be, and hereby is, appointed and constituted a Board of Trustees to hold office until the next meeting of the Synod, or until otherwise ordered; and that the said Trustees be empowered also to use any funds which may be secured, for the repair and improvement of the property; provided, nevertheless, that they shall incur no debt upon the property, nor make the Synod responsible for any expenditure.

4. That for the consummation of this purchase, and for the endowment of the Seminary, the committee be authorized to employ the Rev. Nicholas W. Goertner, D. D., as the financial agent within the bounds of this Synod, and to remunerate him properly for his services.

The committee provided for in the foregoing report was constituted as follows: The Rev. Messrs. Willis J. Beecher, D. D., Nicholas W. Goertner, D. D., Robert L. Bachman, David Torrey, D. D., Samuel Jessup, and Messrs. William D. Walcott, Frank G. Wood, Archibald McClure, and Hon. Henry L. Duguid.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported:

Paper No. 1. An Overture from the Presbytery of Genesee Valley, requesting that the said Presbytery be dissolved, and that its ministers and churches be assigned to adjacent Presbyteries; with reasons for the proposed dissolution.

The committee recommends the following action:

1. That the Presbytery of Genesee Valley be, and it hereby is, dissolved;
2. That the ministers and churches of said Presbytery within the County of Cattaraugus, N. Y., and McKean County, Penn., be transferred to the Presbytery of Buffalo;
3. That the ministers and churches within the County of Allegany, N. Y., be transferred to the Presbytery of Steuben;
4. That the Rev. Robert R. Kendall, a member of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley, but residing and laboring at Boxford, Mass., be transferred to the Presbytery of Boston;
5. That the Synod hereby consents to a request from the churches in McKean County, Penn., now in the Presbytery of Genesee Valley, to the next General Assembly, to be set off to the Synod of Pennsylvania and the Presbytery of Erie;
6. That the Presbytery of Buffalo is hereby declared to be the legal successor of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley, and, as such, entitled to the possession and enjoyment of all the rights and franchises, and liable to the performance of all the duties, of the said Presbytery;
7. That the records and archives of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley, and the funds in the hands of its treasurer, be turned over to the custody of the Presbytery of Buffalo.

The report was adopted.

On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee the following Visitors were appointed:

AUBURN SEMINARY: *Ministers*—W. Wallace Atterbury, William Hart Dexter, William S. Hubbell, D. D.; *Elders*—Louis Chapin, Thomas Scovel.

UNION SEMINARY: *Ministers*—Charles C. Wallace, D. D., David Torrey, D. D., James Gardner, D. D.; *Elders*—Silas B. Brownell, Ralph E. Prime.

UNIVERSITY OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK: *Ministers*—Charles W. Baird, D. D., C. Cuthbert Hall, George C. Yeisley, Fenwick T. Williams, Walter Condict, Lewis Lampman, David J. Atwater; *Elder*—John Sloan.

ADAMS COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE: *Ministers*—L. Merrill Miller, D. D., George B. Spalding, D. D.; *Elder*—Edward North, L. H. D.

The following minute was adopted:

The Synod of New York, impressed with a sense of the peril to the interests of religion from the manifest tendency to a relaxed observance of the Lord's Day, desires to bring the matter anew to the attention of its ministers and churches.

1. The law of God, which sets apart one day in seven for rest and worship, founded in the needs of man's nature, and confirmed by Christ and by the experience of the Church, is a law as binding as any other of God's laws, and one which we are not at liberty to abridge or alter for our own convenience.

2. Our Lord Jesus taught us the practical interpretation of the law of the Sabbath when he said "The Sabbath is made for man"; that is, for his use and benefit. It is to be interpreted and obeyed so as to secure the beneficial results, for which it is intended, to the body, the mind, and the soul. This involves not only the cessation of bread-winning toil, but the interruption of the train of secular thoughts and cares and interests which necessarily engage the week-days; and such changed employments of the body and mind as shall conduce to the higher rest of the soul in communion with God and in obedience to the Master's precept of doing good on the Sabbath day; with a mindfulness of the equal Sabbath rights and duties of our fellow-men, and a carefulness so to use our rest as not to deprive others of the same blessing, and so to exercise our Christian liberty as to give no occasion to others to offend.

3. That while we disclaim all wish to impose on others, by civil authority, the religious observance of Sunday, as repugnant to the spirit alike of Christianity and of our free institutions, we do claim the weekly rest-day, with its relief from toil, its quiet and order, its leisure for personal and social improvement and home enjoyment, and its opportunity of undisturbed worship, as a cherished civil institution of this people from the beginning of its history, and which, as such, has always been and is rightfully protected by laws designed to secure to all, as far as possible, equal rights to its enjoyment. It therefore becomes all good citizens to maintain these laws, and vigilantly to guard against an invasion of this right. Our working men, especially, should uphold, jealously, the laws and customs of our country which secure to them the weekly rest of which a large proportion of the working men of Europe is deprived.

The Synod was addressed by the Rev. W. Wallace Atterbury, Secretary of the New York Sabbath Committee.

It was

Resolved: That the Synod cordially commends the New York Sabbath Committee, and other like associations in this State, in their efforts to maintain and enforce the laws which protect the Sunday rest.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Rev. Samuel J. Fisher addressed the Synod in behalf of the Board of Missions for Freedmen, and the Rev. Samuel M. Hamilton, D. D., in behalf of the Board of Church Erection.

The Rev. Joseph W. Sanderson, the Superintendent of Mission Work in the New England States, was heard in reference to the need and importance of evangelistic effort in that portion of the Synod's field.

The Committee appointed last year to consider the Business Methods of the Synod, presented a report, which was amended and adopted, and is as follows:

First—In view of the special fact that important matters before the Synod are often carried over, for consideration and action, from one year to the next; and also in view of the general fact that the plans and work of the Synod have in them a permanent element of continuity, it is recommended to the several Presbyteries, to elect delegates to the Synod for two years instead of one, and so that half the number of delegates shall be chosen anew each year. No increase of Synodical service would thus be required, in the long run, of one person, yet the identity of the Synod would be made continuous in the desirable degree.

Second—It is recommended that members of committees holding over be entitled to the floor of the Synod, and to participation in debate, in discussions upon the subjects covered by their reports.

Third—It is recommended that all committees whose reports are to be presented to the Synod be enjoined to have those reports in readiness at the opening of the Synod's session.

Fourth—In accordance with the instructions of the General Assembly (Minutes of 1885, page 646), it is recommended that permanent committees upon the several Boards of the Assembly be appointed, each committee to consist of a minister and an elder; and the several committees thus appointed, together with a general chairman, to be chosen by the Synod, shall constitute the Committee on Systematic Beneficence.

Fifth—It is recommended that in the election of the Moderator, nominating speeches be dispensed with,—names being brought before the Synod by simple nomination with secondings,—and that practical fitness for the duties of presiding officer be held as of paramount importance.

Sixth—It is recommended that more time be given to the reports on the Records of the Presbyteries, in order to ensure uniformity of action, as well as to emphasize the important duties of the Committees of Examination.

The committee farther recommends the following amendments to the Standing Rules:

Alter Rule V. so that the first paragraph shall read, "The Stated Clerk of each Presbytery, immediately after its Fall Stated Meeting, shall send to the Stated Clerk of the Synod an official report," &c.

Alter Rule VI. so that the first paragraph shall read, "The Stated and Permanent Clerks shall have the privileges of the floor; and the members of committees which have been appointed at a previous session to report to the Synod shall be entitled to participate in debate, when their reports are under consideration."

Alter Rule IX. so that it shall read, "Each Presbytery, immediately after its Fall Stated Meeting, shall forward to the Stated Clerk of the Synod a Statistical Report," &c.

Alter Rule X. so that Clause 7 shall read, "To nominate committees to attend the examinations in Auburn and Union Theological Seminaries, and Visitors to other educational institutions"; and so that the last paragraph shall read, "Before the adjournment, a committee of one minister and one elder on each of the Boards of the Church shall be appointed, to serve for one year; and these committees, with a general chairman to be chosen at the same time, shall constitute the Committee on Systematic Beneficence and the Work of the Church, whose report shall be the first order of business on the second day of every annual session."

"A committee shall be appointed, also, to present, at the next sessions of the Synod, a brief Pastoral Letter, to be sent down to the Presbyteries and churches of the Synod."

The committee appointed to present a plan for utilizing the gifts and graces of laymen in evangelistic work, presented the following report, which was adopted:

The committee recommends that the General Assembly be respectfully requested to direct the immediate and especial attention of the entire Church to the Form of Government, Chap. XXI., in which instruction is given how ruling elders and deacons shall conduct religious services in vacant and feeble churches; and to devise and issue a plan whereby laymen possessing the requisite qualifications shall be directed towards appropriate labor, either as teachers in Sabbath Schools, or leaders of neighborhood prayer-meetings, gathering in from the masses destitute of the means of grace, or neglecting those means; or, if they shall be constitutionally inducted into the eldership, in the churches to which they belong, may, by direction of their respective Presbyteries, render proper assistance to vacant and feeble churches, or to the neglected and neglectful masses unsupplied with the means of grace.

The nomination of the District Superintendents provided for in the Plan of Sustentation, was referred to the committee on that subject.

The Adams Collegiate Institute was commended to the regard and patronage of the Church and the general public.

The Committee on the Endowment of Hamilton College reported the following recommendations, which were adopted:

1. That the Committee be continued, and that the Synod urge upon its members the importance of completing the endowment at the earliest possible date.
2. That a committee of three be appointed to nominate the Endowment Committee for the ensuing year.

The Nominating Committee was appointed, as follows: Rev. Messrs. L. Merrill Miller, D. D., Edward G. Thurber, D. D., and Elder Seth K. Blair.

The Committee on Sunday-school Work reported that it had nothing to present at the present sessions beyond the recommendation that the committee be made a Permanent, instead of a Standing Committee, and that the Standing Rules be amended accordingly.

The report was accepted and the recommendation adopted.

The Annual Statement of the Treasurer of Elmira College was presented and accepted, and an abstract was ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Committee on the Endowment of Elmira College, presented the following report, which was accepted:

Owing to the severe and protracted illness of the Chairman, and the absence of several of the members of the committee, no active steps have been taken during the year for the promotion of this important object. The committee regrets to be obliged to content itself with referring to the excellent report presented to the Synod last year, and urging an increased interest in the welfare of the institution.

The report of the Board of Examiners of Elmira College was presented, accepted, and ordered to be placed on file.

The Rev. Augustus W. Cowles, D. D., President of the College, addressed the Synod by invitation.

It was

Resolved, That the Synod re-affirms and adopts the report of the Committee on the Endowment of Elmira College, presented last year, with the following corrections and additions:

1. That instead of recommending farther delay in raising an adequate and liberal endowment for the College, the Synod, with earnestness and emphasis, declares its conviction that measures should at once be taken to secure at least \$100,000 during the current Synodical year.

2. It is recommended to all pastors and stated supplies to endeavor to create a special interest in the college on the part of their congregations, and to increase the number of students by furnishing information to parents who have daughters to educate.

3. It is recommended that all pastors and stated supplies be urged to give personal interest and attention to the raising of a fund of \$50,000, as a part of the entire sum, to be a perpetual scholarship fund for aiding ministers of this Synod in the education of their daughters. It is hoped that a majority of the pastors will, by personal effort, each obtain \$100 for this fund, before the next meeting of the Synod.

4. It is recommended that an Endowment Committee of fifteen ministers and three elders be appointed, to be divided into three district committees, Eastern, Central and Western, of six members each, and each with its own chairman, to take an active and efficient supervision of the work; *provided*, that in the prosecution of its duties, no expense shall be laid upon the Synod.

The Committee on the Endowment of Elmira College, thus provided for, was appointed as follows:

For the Eastern District of the Synod: The Rev. Messrs. James Gardner, D. D., Leander T. Chamberlain, D. D., George Alexander, D. D., Theodore L. Cuyler, D. D., Walter D. Buchanan, and Elder Warner Van Norden.

For the Central District: Rev. Messrs. Edward G. Thurber, D. D., Charles C. Hemenway, G. Parsons Nichols, D. D., J. Jermain Porter, D. D., J. Lovejoy Robertson, and Elder Darwin L. Pickard.

For the Western District: Rev. Messrs. John McLachlan, Rufus S. Green, D. D., Martin D. Kneeland, William A. Niles, D. D., Charles S. Durfee, and Elder Stephen M. Clement.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported:

Paper No. 2. Asking that an Overture be sent to the General Assembly, on the subject of Ministerial Support, and proposing, especially, a "Pastoral Fund throughout the entire Church, out of which an equal dividend shall be declared annually to every minister, whether in charge or honorably retired."

The committee recommends that no action be taken, on the ground of expediency.

The report was adopted.

The Stated Clerk, the Rev. James Gardner, D. D., and Elder George W. Tew, were appointed a Committee to revise the By-Laws adopted by the Synod last year under the act of incorporation, and to nominate Trustees in the places of those whose term of office now expires, and to fill vacancies.

A recess was taken until half-past seven o'clock, P. M.

Closed with prayer.

THURSDAY, October 21, 7.30 o'clock, P. M.

After the recess devotional services were held, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., on Home Missions, and Rev. Frank F. Ellinwood, D. D., on Foreign Missions.

Adjourned until to-morrow at nine o'clock, A. M.

Closed with prayer.

FRIDAY, October 22, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod met, and spent the first half hour in devotional services.

The calling of the roll was dispensed with.

The minutes of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

The Permanent Committee on Sunday School Work was appointed, as follows: The Rev. Messrs. Leander T. Chamberlain, D. D., Frederick S. Barnum, Willis J. Beecher, D. D., Henry Ward, and Elders Horace B. Silliman, Theodore S. Hubbard, Edward Danforth.

The Permanent Committee on Temperance reported, that as no communications had been made to it by the Committees of the Presbyteries, indicating lines of work, it had no recommendations to lay before the Synod.

The report was accepted.

The following minute was adopted:

WHEREAS, The General Assembly has recommended the observance of the first Lord's Day of November next as a day of special prayer for Foreign Missions and special consideration of the interests of that object; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the Synod earnestly commends to its pastors and churches the particular and prayerful observance of this appointment of the Assembly.

2. That in view of the great work in which our Board of Foreign Missions is engaged, and in view of the peculiar and pressing needs of its treasury at the present time, the Synod would impress upon the minds of its ministers and congregations the absolute necessity of greatly enlarged and more generous contributions to this object.

The Judicial Commission, to which were referred Judicial Cases Nos. 4 and 5, presented the following report of its proceedings, which was ordered to be entered in the records of the Synod:

The Commission has had before it Judicial Case No. 4, being an appeal of Elder Amasa R. Moore from a decision of the Presbytery of Troy, refusing to sustain a complaint against the Session of Westminster Church, Troy, for requesting the Rev. C. W. Wood "to refrain from expressing his peculiar views in our meetings, and criticising those who are at variance with him."

The appellant was not present either in person or by counsel. A letter from him stated that it was "inconvenient" for him to attend, and requested that counsel be appointed to represent him. Although no evidence was furnished that he was "unavoidably prevented" from being present, the Commission acceded to his request, and appointed Rev. George C. Yeisley as his counsel, who so acted.

The appeal was tried in accordance with the provisions of the revised Book of Discipline. After due deliberation the vote was taken, the specifications of error in the appeal were not sustained, and the judgment of the Presbytery was affirmed unanimously.

The commission has also had before it Judicial Case No. 5, an appeal of William Ingleby from a decision of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley, deposing him from the gospel ministry for gross immorality.

Mr. Ingleby was not present, but sent a certificate signed by two physicians, stating that he was physically unable to attend the meeting of the Synod; and also a written request that the trial of the appeal be postponed for one year. The Commission knew of no reason why Mr. Ingleby might not have been represented by counsel; and as the evidence was all present upon which the decision must rest, it was decided that no injustice would be done if the case were proceeded with.

The appeal, accordingly, was entertained, and Rev. Alexander B. Riggs was appointed as counsel for the appellant, and so acted.

After reading the record, the parties were heard, and all other requirements of

the Book of Discipline were complied with; and a patient and careful consideration was given to the case. By a unanimous vote, the Commission refused to sustain the appeal, and the judgment of the Presbytery was affirmed.

The Committee appointed to attend the last Annual Examination in Auburn Theological Seminary presented the following report, which was accepted:

The Seminary is situated in the most attractive part of the beautiful city of Auburn. With one exception its buildings are new, and adapted to the use for which they were intended.

The last catalogue reported forty-two students, of whom sixteen were in the Senior class. All of these, it is believed, are engaged in the work of preaching the gospel. The present year shows an accession of twenty-six, two to the Senior class, four to the Middle, and nineteen to the Junior, with one post-graduate. The actual attendance is forty-eight, with a prospect of an increase of at least two or three.

The staff of professors is full; and their work has not been interrupted during the year. The course of study is intended especially to prepare men for the work of the ministry, and to lay a broad and sure foundation for years of farther investigation of the deep things of God's Word. Opportunity is not afforded in the regular curriculum for special lines of research, as three years do not seem too much to give the student even a general view of theological science in its various branches. Yet something of flexibility has this year been introduced. For example, Hebrew is made optional with the Middle and Senior classes, and the time heretofore given to it in these classes is devoted to the study of topics concerning the Old Testament, and of the Old Testament itself. Those who desire to continue the study of Hebrew are admitted to a special class which meets twice a week. Twelve men are at present in this class, and, having a fondness for their work, are doing from two to three times as much as upper-class men formerly have done. Your committee looks with much favor upon this movement, especially because it gives more time to the study of the Bible itself; and it would heartily endorse the effort now making by the professors of Hebrew in many theological seminaries to place Hebrew among the optional studies of the collegiate course. By this means the year spent in the Seminary in the study of Hebrew grammar and inflexions could be devoted to Old Testament exegesis and to Biblical themes.

Your committee has also to report another departure from old methods, an experiment towards the solution of a problem as old as our American Presbyterianism: whether men not called to be Bachelors of Arts may nevertheless be called to the work of the ministry; whether men without classical training shall be set apart to this sacred office. On account of age, or for other reasons, six of the nineteen admitted to the Junior class had not taken a college course. For them, and for others needing special training in Greek, a special "Greek language" class has been formed by Prof. Riggs, attendance upon which is required of those lacking a classical education. Their remaining in the Seminary is conditioned upon certain tests, and upon work additional to that of the regular curriculum. The Synod should watch with special interest the result of this experiment.

The needs of the Seminary, which call for a generous liberality on the part of the Church, are:

1. A new chapel, the old room being totally unfitted for its purpose.
2. Additional residences for its professors.

3. A larger and a better library. The empty shelves remaining in the elegant building erected through the liberality of Messrs. Dodge and Morgan, furnish, in spite of their 16,000 volumes, a silent and eloquent appeal, which ought not long to go unheeded.

4. A larger endowment, and especially the sum of \$50,000 as a Contingent Fund.

The visit of your committee was especially gratifying because of the evidence it gathered through the written and oral examinations, and in the public orations of the graduating class, of thoroughness of instruction, application to study, spiritual culture, and earnestness in the great work of preparing for the holy calling of the ministry.

On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the following were appointed, for the ensuing year,

THE WOMAN'S SYNODICAL COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS.

Presbytery of Albany—Mrs. Henry March, Mrs. B. Frank Potter, Mrs. Isabella McGill.

Binghamton—Mrs. Howard Elmer, Miss Ida Storrs, Mrs. G. Parsons Nichols, Miss E. Stephens.

Boston—Mrs. Charles C. Wallace, Miss Elizabeth M. Kimball, Mrs. Andrew Burrows, Mrs. Valentine A. Lewis.

Brooklyn—Mrs. Darwin R. James, Mrs. James M. Ham, Mrs. David M. Miller, Mrs. F. E. H. Haines, Mrs. Oscar E. Boyd, Mrs. Hiram B. Jackson, Miss Grace E. Cook, Miss Helen M. Wells, Mrs. W. A. M. Grier, Mrs. Lewis R. Foote.

Buffalo—Mrs. Henry Childs, Mrs. Louis M. Kimball, Mrs. Martin D. Kneeland, Mrs. William H. Walker, Miss Harriet C. Buell.

Cayuga—Mrs. Ezra A. Huntington, Mrs. Levi T. Hamilton.

Champlain—Mrs. Joseph Gamble, Mrs. Chandler N. Thomas.

Chemung—Mrs. Alexander O. Peloubet, Miss Hattie Ely.

Columbia—Mrs. George A. Howard, Mrs. George C. Yeisley.

Genesee—Mrs. Cassius H. Dibble, Mrs. William W. Totheroh.

Geneva—Mrs. Thompson C. Maxwell, Miss Helen Hawley.

Hudson—Mrs. Charles Beattie, Mrs. F. Markoe Cummins, Mrs. Alfred Neafie, Mrs. Seth B. Cole.

Long Island—Mrs. Ephraim Whitaker, Miss Mary H. Howell, Mrs. P. R. Reilley, Miss Amelia Smith, Mrs. William H. Littell, Miss Sara J. Adams.

Lyons—Mrs. Horace Eaton, Mrs. A. Parke Burgess.

Nassau—Mrs. Lewis Lampman, Mrs. J. R. Mowbray, Mrs. Peter D. Oakey, Mrs. Samuel T. Carter.

New York—Mrs. Silas B. Brownell, Mrs. John Sinclair, Mrs. William F. Lee, Mrs. George D. Phelps, Mrs. Edward N. Crosby, Mrs. William H. Wickham, Miss Mary T. Magill.

Niagara—Mrs. Daniel Clarke, Mrs. Robert Norton, Mrs. C. H. Fowler.

North River—Mrs. Hector Craig, Mrs. Charles J. Howell.

Otsego—Mrs. Pliny F. Sanborne, Mrs. Horace H. Allen, Miss Catharine Roseboom.

Rochester—Mrs. William Alling, Mrs. Sarah J. Nichols, Mrs. Josiah E. Kirtledge, Miss Frances E. Lauderdale, Mrs. William J. Milne.

St. Lawrence—Mrs. L. Merrill Miller, Mrs. Charles Anthony, Miss P. T. Hubbard.

Steuben—Mrs. William A. Niles, Mrs. Francis A. Williams, Mrs. William H. Rice.

Syracuse—Mrs. Chauncey Bronson, Mrs. Allen Butler, Mrs. N. E. Dow, Mrs. William A. Rice, Mrs. H. A. Allen.

Troy—Mrs. E. N. Dauchy, Miss Elizabeth A. S. Eddy, Mrs. R. H. McClellan.

Utica—Mrs. John C. Gallup, Mrs. Frederick A. M. Brown, Miss Sarah Gilbert, Mrs. George Curran, Mrs. A. H. Chester.

Westchester—Mrs. Thornton M. Niven, Jr., Mrs. Stanton Cady, Mrs. Edgar L. Heermance, Miss Olivia B. Walsh, Mrs. Sanford R. Knapp, Mrs. F. A. Walker.

The following Committees on the Boards of the Church were appointed, constituting the Committee on Systematic Beneficence and the Work of the Church:

Chairman, Rev. George W. F. Birch, D. D.

Home Missions and Sustentation: Rev. Wilson Phraner, D. D., Elder Warner Van Norden.

Foreign Missions: Rev. William M. Johnson, D. D., Elder Edward P. Durant.

Education: Rev. William A. Niles, D. D., Elder Stephen M. Clement.

Publication: Rev. Francis B. Wheeler, D. D., Elder Alonzo Alden.

Church Erection: Rev. Joseph E. Nassau, D. D., Elder Fred C. Lounsbury.

Ministerial Relief: Rev. Hugh W. Torrence, Elder Daniel Carpenter.

Missions for Freedmen: Rev. Charles E. Robinson, D. D., Elder Kiliaen Van Rensselaer.

Aid for Colleges: Rev. L. Merrill Miller, D. D., Elder Daniel Waterman.

The Committee on the Nomination of Trustees and Examiners of Elmira College, presented the names of the following persons, who were duly elected:

Trustees—Alexander S. Diven, Daniel R. Pratt, Francis Hall, Rev. J. Lovejoy Robertson, Rev. George H. McKnight, D. D., and H. Boardman Smith, to serve for three years; and Rev. George D. Meigs, in place of Rev. Charles S. Robinson, D. D., resigned, to serve for two years.

Examiners—Rev. Charles C. Carr, Rev. John L. Taylor, and Rev. Arthur W. Spooner, to serve for three years.

The Trustees of the Synod presented the following report:

The Trustees of the Synod beg leave to report that in compliance with the directions of the Synod last year, they held their first meeting in the City of New York, November 10, 1885, and were duly organized by the appointment of the following officers:

President—William Allen Butler, Esq.

Secretary—Rev. T. Ralston Smith, D. D.

Treasurer—Warner Van Norden, Esq.

Legal Committee—William Allen Butler, Esq., and Henry Day, Esq.

They also, as directed, communicated the fact of their organization to the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries, and to the Synod at large by publication in the *New York Observer* and *New York Evangelist*.

A communication has been received from Miss Catherine Roseboom of Cherry Valley, New York, proposing to place the Academy in that village under the charge of the Synod. In view of the probability that similar applications will be made, it seems proper that the Trustees should be authorized to accept grants of that description by general resolution; and for this purpose the following form is recommended:

Resolved, That the Trustees of the Synod of New York be, and they hereby are, authorized and empowered to take and receive, on behalf of said Synod, and in its name, for religious, educational, benevolent or charitable purposes, such gifts, devises, bequests, grants, or conveyances of real or personal estate, as in their judgment shall be proper, and to make such applications and provisions as in their discretion they may deem advisable, for the purpose of carrying out and performing the trusts upon which such gifts, devises, bequests, grants, or conveyances may be received.

The term of office of the following Trustees ceases with the present sessions of the Synod, namely: Rev. Leander T. Chamberlain, D. D., Rev. George Alexander, D. D., Morris K. Jesup, and Warner Van Norden.

The Trustees regret to add that Mr. D. Willis James has found it impracticable to serve as a member of the Board.

The report was accepted, and the recommendation was adopted.

The Committee appointed to revise the By-laws of the Synod as an incorporated body, and to nominate Trustees, presented the following report, which was adopted:

The committee recommends that the By-laws be amended so that they shall read as follows:

BY-LAWS.

I. The Trustees of this corporation shall consist of the Moderator, Stated Clerk, Permanent Clerk, and Treasurer, all *ex officio*; and, in addition, six ministers and six laymen, a majority of whom shall live in or near New York city, to constitute three classes, to hold office one, two, and three years respectively, their successors to be elected by the Synod, and to hold office for three years each.

II. Seven Trustees shall constitute a quorum.

III. These Trustees shall meet, from time to time, on their own adjournment, or at the call of the President and Secretary.

IV. The Trustees are authorized and empowered to take and receive, on behalf of the Synod of New York, and in its name, for religious, educational, benevolent or charitable purposes, such gifts, devises, bequests, grants, or conveyances of real or personal estate, as in their judgment shall be proper, and to make such applications and provisions as in their discretion they may deem advisable, for the purpose of carrying out and performing the trusts upon which such gifts, devises, bequests, grants or conveyances may be received.

V. The Trustees shall present a report annually to the Synod.

On the farther recommendation of the Committee, the following were duly elected as Trustees of the Synod:

Rev. Leander T. Chamberlain, D. D., Rev. George Alexander, D. D., and Messrs. Edward Wells and Warner Van Norden, to serve for

three years; and Mr. John C. Tucker, in place of Mr. D. Willis James, to serve for two years.

The Rev. Granville P. Sewall, of the Synod of Pennsylvania, being present, was invited to sit as a Corresponding member.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented the following report, which was adopted:

Exception having been taken by the last General Assembly to the action of the Synod last year, respecting the rights of the Trustees of a Presbytery, and the action having been referred back to the Synod for farther consideration, the committee recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Synod respectfully reaffirms its deliverance of last year respecting the rights of Trustees "to make absolute and final disposition of the funds raised from the sale of the property of a defunct church, without consultation with, or instruction from, or vote of, the Presbytery"; believing that the decisions of the Court of Appeals of this State make the Presbytery the corporation, and the Trustees merely its agents, and give the latter no right to usurp the functions of the former, thus rendering the legal and ecclesiastical rights of the Trustees of a Presbytery identical.

The Committee on a Plan for Sustentation, reported the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Rev. James N. Crocker, D. D., be, and he hereby is appointed the Synodical Superintendent of weak and vacant churches and mission fields in the first district.

Resolved, That the Rev. Messrs. T. Ralston Smith, D. D., Asa S. Fiske, Isaac Jennings, Jr., Joseph E. Nassau, D. D., J. Wilford Jacks, Luther A. Ostrander, Cornelius S. Stowitts, Charles E. Robinson, D. D., William A. Niles, D. D., and Edward G. Thurber, D. D., be appointed a committee, with power, to select and commission a Synodical Superintendent for the second district.

The Judicial Commission appointed in Case No. 3, to try the Appeal of George N. Smith from a decision of the Presbytery of Geneva, and his Complaint against the said Presbytery, presented the following report of its proceedings, which was ordered to be entered in the records of the Synod:

The appeal and complaint were consolidated.

The appellant was present in person, and by his counsel, Elder Edward P. Durant; and the Presbytery of Geneva was represented by the Rev. Messrs. Benjamin F. Millard and Hugh W. Torrence. The Appeal and Complaint, and the records referring to the case, were read. The parties having been heard, and all the provisions of the Book of Discipline having been complied with, the vote was taken, and the specifications of error were not sustained. The action of the Presbytery of Geneva in deposing the appellant from the gospel ministry is accordingly affirmed.

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly presented the following report, which was accepted:

Your committee calls attention:

1. To the record of preparations for the Centennial Celebration of Presbyterianism; and to the mention of historical treasures collected and guarded by our Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia. Researches in the line of these records are suggested to pastors with a view to instructing their congregations in the religious events of the past century.

2. The introduction of an index of the churches is a new feature of the minutes, for which all in search of ecclesiastical information will be grateful. The insertion of Rules for Judicatories will, also, prove a convenience, and will increase familiarity with our wise and decorous methods of procedure.

3. An infelicity is noted, respectfully, in the mode of recording the dates of meeting of the various Synods and Presbyteries. See pages 260, 261. The date is so given as to mislead an untrained eye. For example, we read that a Synod will meet "October, 3rd Tuesday, 1886, (19th), 7½ P. M.," where a hasty glance suggests that the meeting occurs October 3rd. All liability to be misled might be avoided by simply using the order, "October 19, 1886, third Tuesday."

4. Attention is called to the incorporation of the overture on "The Worship of God by Offerings" as a part of the Directory of Worship. Also, to the overture on the same page, 107, regarding the Term Service for Deacons.

5. An important recommendation by the Committee of Finance appears on page 109, as to the careful examination and auditing of the accounts of all our treasurers or custodians of money, as often as once in every three months.

6. The observance of special seasons of prayer is suggested as follows:

The traditional Week of Prayer, in January; the last Thursday in January as a day of Prayer for Colleges; a day in June for special prayer in behalf of our baptized children; a concert of prayer in November for the Young Men's Christian Associations; one Sabbath in November for special instruction and prayer concerning Foreign Missions. Emphasis is also to be laid on the importance of united supplication for definite objects.

The following minute was adopted:

The Synod having received an appeal from the Rev. John Brown, of Texas, for sympathy and aid in the case of the thousands of families suffering on account of the protracted drought in the Northwestern part of that State, and being assured, upon sufficient evidence, of the existence and urgency of their needs, commends this cause to the sympathy and generosity of the Synod, and urges immediate action on the part of both individuals and others, inasmuch as the appeal is for seed-wheat which should at once be sown.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures, presented the following report, which was adopted:

Paper No. 3, a Memorial from the Rev. John L. Gourlay, claiming indebtedness on the part of the church at Brasher Falls for services rendered by him, the proof of which is not presented, and which is not admitted by the church; asking the Synod to instruct the Presbytery of St. Lawrence to procure for him a settlement of his claim, or give him permission to take it to the civil courts.

The committee recommends, in answer, that the Synod has no reason to entertain the petition, it being understood that the Presbytery has done already what the petitioner requests.

Paper No. 4, an Overture from the Presbytery of Chemung, asking advice on the following points:

1. May a Presbytery accept the diploma of a college graduate, instead of examinations in the sciences and arts as called for in our Form of Government?

2. May a Presbytery dispense with any part of the examinations of a candidate, for either licensure or ordination? Has it any discretion in this matter, and to what extent may it exercise its discretion?

It is recommended, in answer, that the Presbytery be referred to the Form of Government, and that the required examinations should be continued, step by step, until the judgment and conscience of the Presbytery are satisfied, and able to give an intelligent vote.

Paper No. 5, asking whether it is expedient for a Presbytery to elect to the Synod a less number of delegates than it is entitled to elect by the organic rule under which the Synod is constituted.

The answer is recommended, that it is unwise to do so, in view of the interests both of the Presbytery and the Synod.

Paper No. 6, asking the Synod to memorialize the General Assembly to the effect that in the columns of contributions, in the minutes, there be entered only the sums which pass through the treasuries of the several Boards.

It is recommended that the consideration of this paper be deferred until the next meeting of the Synod.

Paper No. 7, a resolution concerning the amendment of the Marriage Laws of the State of New York; the Committee recommends its adoption, as follows:

Resolved, That the Moderator, the Stated and Permanent Clerks, and the Temporary Clerks be a Committee to prepare and forward, in the name and in behalf of the Synod, to the Legislature of the State of New York, at its next annual session, a Memorial, petitioning that Honorable body to revise and change the Marriage Laws of the State of New York, so as to incorporate therein a system of licences by the civil authority such as is now in force in the State of Pennsylvania and other States of the Union; and that in the discretion of the committee such Memorial be accompanied with a prepared bill for the action of the Legislature suitable to carry such system into effect.

The Committee on the Place of the Next Meeting reported, recommending that the next annual sessions of the Synod be held in the First Church in the City of Auburn, the several churches of that city having united in extending a cordial invitation to the Synod.

The recommendation was adopted; and the Sessions of the several churches in Auburn were appointed a Committee of Arrangements, with power to choose its own chairman.

The Committee appointed to attend the examinations in Union Theological Seminary, presented the following report, which was accepted:

Three of the four ministers on the committee were present, and two of the three elders.

The committee was gratified to see how admirably the new, ornate, and substantial building is adapted to the work of the Seminary, and how fittingly the Faculty, Officers and Students have settled to their places and work. Devout thanks should be given to the Head of the Church for the equipment of this Institution and its facilities for preparing, thoroughly, an educated ministry suited to the present needs of the Church, and to meet the cavils and doubts of unbelievers and the spiritual necessities of the age.

The committee was divided so that every class was heard by some of its members. The examination was more of a term-time drill than a parade day. The students generally seemed to understand clearly the subjects of study, and to appreciate the work before them. Every member of the Faculty appeared, in the examination, as if he loved his place and department, and was thoroughly prepared for it. The different subjects of the Seminary course were considered, as far as time would allow; and if, *ab uno disce omnes*, the committee is hearty in its approval of the Faculty in their work.

The Catalogue shows one hundred and twenty-five students, representing seven nationalities, twenty-two States in our country, and fifty-two different colleges. Of the thirty-three members of the Junior class every one is the representative of a college education; so that the just criticism of former years, "inadequate preparation," is disappearing.

A reverent regard for, and reliance on, the authority of the Scriptures, and frequent quotations from them were noticed in all the classes, and judicious reference to the formulas of the Catechism was frequently made.

Apologetics were dealt with in the historical manner, with the double advantage of acquiring history and the various methods, past and present, of answering doubts and repelling assaults on the truth. The life of Christ was considered not only in the facts of the time, but in a critical presentation of all modern exegetical discoveries and sceptical objections. If the students were as much interested in the discussion of Christian ethics as your committee was, the course followed will be of great service to them in the practical part of their ministry. In the Hebrew examination the students read the words fluently, at sight, and translated with ease and accuracy. They were familiar with the construction and parsing, and appreciated the doctrinal meaning of the passages read. The examination on Pastoral Theology was refreshing. If older ministers had early learned as well about directness and gentleness, and reverent simplicity in preaching, in church order, prayer, and pastoral visitation, their work would have been easier and more profitable.

The Anniversary exercises were a fitting close to the labors of the year. A paper presented by Dr. Hitchcock, on the Social Troubles of the Land, was timely and excellent, and was commended for publication.

Your committee is unanimous in expressing approval of the work of the Seminary.

Elder James H. Allen, M. D., a delegate elect from the Presbytery of Geneva, communicated reasons for his absence from the present sessions of the Synod.

A recess was taken until two o'clock, P. M.

Closed with prayer.

FRIDAY, October 22, two o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on the Condition of the Churches and Mission Work was discontinued.

It was

Resolved, 1. That the recommendation of the General Assembly, in view of its one hundredth session in 1888, that Churches and Presbyteries arrange for the collection and publication of the facts of their history, be urged on the Presbyteries and Churches of this Synod, and that special attention be directed to the details of the action of the Assembly as recorded in the Minutes of 1886, pages 16 and 17.

2. That a Committee, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. Charles W. Baird, D. D., Samuel M. Hopkins, D. D., and T. Ralston Smith, D. D., and Elders Walter Carter and Lewis H. Clark, be appointed to prepare a history of this Synod, and to report next year.

The Committee of Visitors to Adams Collegiate Institute presented the following report, which was accepted:

The committee respectfully reports that the time when it was especially desirable that this institution should be visited occurred at a date so near to the Commencement of Hamilton College, that it was impossible for the chairman of the committee to be absent. There is no action, therefore, to be reported.

The Committee of Correspondence with the Presbytery of Orooniah, presented the following report, which was accepted, and its recommendation was adopted:

The committee respectfully reports that nothing requiring its attention has been presented during the past year. The chairman has enjoyed a brief interview with the Rev. Samuel G. Wilson of Tabriz, recently visiting in this country, from whom statements of a highly encouraging character were received. Time, however, will be necessary to bring about the adjustment referred to in the last report. It is therefore recommended, simply, that this committee be continued, or another appointed, for farther correspondence, and such co-operation with the brethren in Persia as may be practicable.

The present committee was continued, with the addition of the Rev. John McC. Holmes, D. D.

On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the following were appointed the Permanent Committee on Temperance: The Rev. Messrs. A. Parke Burgess, D. D., Charles P. Coit, Robert L. Bachman, and Elders Frank C. Ellery and Herman D. Eastman.

The Woman's Synodical Committee on Home Missions presented the following report, which was accepted:

The committee reports continued and increased liberality towards its work on the part of the women of our churches. The Receipts to April 1, 1886, were \$41,496, besides \$2,558 for work among the Freedmen, making a total of \$44,054. The number of members in the several societies is reported as 18,637, a gain of 3,841 over last year. In three Presbyteries the women have organized for Home Mission work; the latest one being Genesee, on the day that the Synod convened; thus completing the list of twenty-seven Presbyterial Societies on the field.

We mourn to day the loss of four members of our committee: Mrs. Strong of New York, Mrs. Armstrong of Syracuse, Mrs. Ibbotson and Mrs. Hawley ofinghamton. These ladies held positions of usefulness in their respective Presbyteries.

By the removal of these faithful workers we are not disheartened, but rather would press on all the more vigorously to meet the increasing demands of the work.

This year, our aim, in addition to maintaining the schools, is to provide much-needed new buildings for some of them, and to enlarge the accommodations of others.

The Rev. James N. Crocker, D. D., the Synodical Superintendent, presented a verbal report, which was accepted.

On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the following were appointed as the Committee on the Endowment of Hamilton College: The Rev. Messrs. Charles E. Robinson, D. D., Edward G. Thurber, D. D., James H. Ecob, D. D., Henry H. Stebbins, D. D., J. Wilford Jacks, William S. Hubbell, D. D., Charles C. Hemenway, and Elders Horace B. Silliman, Charles A. Hawley, Theodore S. Hubbard, Thomas T. Flagler, and William F. Lee.

The Treasurer was authorized to pay the bills for the incidental expenses of the Synod.

It was directed that hereafter the reports of the Synodical Superintendents be presented in writing.

The Judicial Commission, to which were referred Judicial Cases 1 and 2, presented the following report of its proceedings, which was ordered to be entered in the records of the Synod:

The Judicial Commission of the Synod of New York, to which were submitted a Complaint of the Session of the Sixth Church, Albany, against the Presbytery of Albany, and a Complaint and Appeal of Charles H. Ellis, by his counsel, J. R. Terwilliger, against and from a judgment of the said Presbytery, in the case of Charles H. Ellis against Mrs. Emma J. Paterson, resolved to consolidate the cases. Having read the record, and having heard the parties in the order prescribed by the Book of Discipline; and having offered the members of the Presbytery opportunity to be heard, which was waived; and opportunity having been given to the members of the Commission to be heard, the Commission proceeded to take a vote separately, according

to the Book of Discipline, upon each specification of error alleged: Whereupon, the following specifications of error were found to be sustained, namely, specifications marked I., II., IV. [A (a, b, c, d, e), B, C (a, b, c), D (a, b)], and V.

It is therefore ordered that the judgment of the Presbytery of Albany in the said case be, and it hereby is, reversed.

It is farther ordered that a copy of this judgment be entered on the records of the Presbytery of Albany, and also on the records of the Session of the Sixth Church of Albany.

The Rev. Messrs. Asa S. Fiske and William Swan, and Elder Moses Sumner Converse were appointed a Committee to prepare a Pastoral Letter to be reported to the Synod next year.

The Committee on Leave of Absence presented the following report, which was accepted:

The committee adopted the principles approved by the Synod last year, defining its powers and duties. In the spirit of these principles it has granted leave of absence to the following delegates:

Presbytery of Albany: Ministers—John McC. Holmes, D. D., Alexander Rankin; Elder—Edward P. Durant.

Binghamton: Elder—Charles E. Merriam.

Boston: Minister—Joseph W. Sanderson.

Brooklyn: Ministers—Leander T. Chamberlain, D. D., Charles J. Jones, D. D.; Elder—George Hannah.

Buffalo: Ministers—William S. Hubbell, D. D., Martin D. Kneeland; Elder—Stephen M. Clement.

Cayuga: Minister—David I. Biggar.

Champlain: Minister—S. Gilbert Boardman.

Chemung: Elders—Martin J. Sunderlin, Edwin Weller.

Columbia: Ministers—William S. Long, George C. Yeisley; Elder—Thomas E. Ferrier.

Genesee: Elders—William R. Halbert, James Brew.

Geneva: Minister—Anson H. Parmelee.

Hudson: Elders—Joseph W. Helm, James C. Bull, Horace D. Thompson.

Lyons: Ministers—A. Parke Burgess, D. D., L. Mason Clarke, Sybrandt Nelson.

New York: Ministers—Samuel M. Hamilton, D. D., Henry M. MacCracken, D. D., David G. Wylie, Frank F. Ellinwood, D. D., Walter D. Buchanan, Edward P. Payson; Elders—Warner Van Norden, Hezekiah King, Henry C. Smith, William Darrow.

North River: Ministers—Charles E. Bronson, Jesse F. Shafer, David J. Atwater; Elder—Hugh S. Banks.

Otsego: Ministers—Horace H. Allen, Albert C. Bishop; Elder—Sullivan Smith.

Rochester: Ministers—Charles P. Coit, F. Swartz Crawford, Jonathan Copeland; Elders—David M. Hough, William A. Brodie, Daniel Bigelow.

St. Lawrence: Minister—Rolla G. Bugbee.

Steuben: Minister—Marcus N. Preston; Elder—T. Scott Thacher.

Syracuse: Ministers—William A. Rice, Legh R. Janes, Cyrus P. Osborne; Elders—Pascal M. Dowd, M. D., Thomas Ellis, Darwin L. Pickard, William Russell, S. Henry Davis.

Troy: Ministers—Alexander B. Riggs, T. Elwood Davis, George Fairlee, Arthur H. Allen, Ninian B. Remick; Elder—Daniel B. Howard.

Utica: Ministers—George Hardy, A. Grosvenor Hopkins, Isaac O. Best; Elder—Allen L. Blue.

Westchester: Ministers—William J. Cumming, Frederick S. Barnum; Elders—Ralph E. Prime, John G. Clark, Sanford R. Knapp.

The following minute was adopted unanimously:

The Synod, in closing its sessions in Elmira, expresses its most cordial thanks to all who have contributed to the comfort of the members, and provided the abundant facilities for the business of the body.

Especial recognition is due to the Pastor, Rev. Isaac Jennings, Jr., and his efficient coadjutors on the Committee of Arrangements, to the Trustees of the First Church, to the families who have extended a generous hospitality to the delegates, to the Organist of the church, and to all who have co-operated in rendering these sessions of the Synod so delightful and profitable.

The thanks of the Synod are expressed also to the Faculty and the Trustees of Elmira College for their generous and pleasant entertainment of the Synod; to the publishers of the Elmira papers; and to the railway companies which have accorded liberal favors to delegates traveling over their roads.

Brief responses were made by members of the Committee of Arrangements.

The several Standing Committees, having no farther business to present, were discharged.

The roll was called, and the following members were recorded as having withdrawn from the sessions of the Synod without its permission:

Presbytery of Albany: Minister—Raymond H. Stearns.

Binghamton: Elder—Benjamin Hathaway.

Brooklyn: Minister—John G. Hehr.

Genesee Valley: Elder—Alvin B. Webster.

Geneva: Elder—John H. Lown.

Hudson: Minister—Charles H. Park; Elder—Robert I. Crawford.

New York: Ministers—W. Wallace Atterbury, William Y. Brown, D. D.

Niagara: Elder—William Glover.

North River: Elder—Rensselaer Howell.

St. Lawrence: Elder—Alexander B. Mac Gowan.

Steuben: Minister—George R. Smith.

Troy: Ministers—Andrew J. Fennel, D. D., John Tatlock, D. D.; Elder—Theodore E. Button.

Utica: Minister—James H. Taylor, D. D.; Elder—Seth K. Blair.

Westchester: Elder—John W. Skinner.

The minutes of to-day's sessions were read and approved.

The business of the session having been completed, the Synod adjourned to meet in the First Church in the city of Auburn, on the third Tuesday, the 18th day, of October, A. D. 1887, at half-past seven o'clock, P. M.

Closed with praise, prayer, and the Apostolic Benediction.

J. WILFORD JACKS,
Permanent Clerk.

T. RALSTON SMITH,
Stated Clerk.

APPENDIX.

I. PASTORAL LETTER.

The Synod of New York to its Ministers, Elders and Churches:

Grace unto you and peace be multiplied.

To the venerable fathers, ministers and elders, who, in the providence of God, are laid aside from active and official service, the Synod sends especial greetings. Grateful to God for all that He has enabled you to accomplish for his Church, we pray that your last days may be your best days, and when your summons comes, may you be gently translated to be forever with the Lord.

To the brethren of the Missionary Presbyteries of Chile, North Laos, Oroomiah and Siam, and to those brethren who are doing missionary service in foreign fields, and are connected with our home Presbyteries, the Synod sends its salutations. Dear brethren, we assure you of our deep interest in your work and labor of love for Christ and for his Church in dark and distant lands, and pray that souls in great numbers may be given to you for your hire.

To the ministers and members of the home churches we suggest, that the monthly Missionary concert of prayer, the subscription list to the consolidated Missionary Magazine, the Missionary sermons from the pulpit, and the Missionary contributions from the pews ought to indicate a large and growing interest in the work of the world's redemption. Should not the Synod of New York provide for the support of its own ministers and churches without diminishing the funds of the Boards of Home Missions, Church Erection, and Ministerial Relief? So also ought our own three Collegiate Institutions to receive ample support in money and in students.

Particular attention is called to the recent change in the Directory for Worship concerning the Worship of God by Offerings. As a part of our Sabbath Worship let us all give, in accordance with the direction of the Apostle, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him." If this direction were universally, systematically and conscientiously observed, it is believed that the gifts of the Church would be increased many fold. In this department of service the Elders should vigorously sustain their Pastors before their congregations. Care should be taken that miscellaneous charities do not thrive at the expense of our Church Boards.

All theologies, new or old, are to be tried by the Word; and we earnestly recommend that Bibles be placed in every pew, and be found in the hands of all the officers, teachers and pupils in the Sabbath School. The best of helps for the study of our Sabbath School lessons are provided by our Board of Publication, but these may not take the place of the entire Bible in the hands of both teachers and scholars.

The best talent and piety of the Church should be enlisted in the work of Sabbath School instruction, and, as far as practicable, the entire congregation should be found in the Church Bible School.

So far as the providence of God permits, Christian families should be found sitting together in the sanctuary on the Sabbath at both morning and evening services.

There can be no appropriate substitute for such habitual attendance upon public worship. Any such undue increase of Sabbath services as shall interfere with the best development of personal and family piety is to be deprecated.

In view of the direction, "Be not conformed to this world," it becomes the representatives of Jesus to discourage indulgence in such amusements as are pre-eminently of the world, worldly. The influence upon our youth of the theatre, the dance and the card-table is to develop and stimulate the sensuous and the carnal rather than that which is pure and holy in Christian character. Parents and guardians are warned of the perils that on every side beset the social life of the young. The utmost caution is urged upon them lest the children be contaminated through evil habits, corrupting associations, and a sensational literature. In the family, in the Sabbath School, and in the Sanctuary, the children should receive careful instruction in personal piety, in Christian doctrine, and in the benevolent and general work of the Church. Having dedicated their children to God in baptism, parents and guardians should earnestly seek to fit them by careful Christian nurture for early admission to the full communion of the Church. In the promotion of home piety Pastors are exhorted to be faithful in pastoral work, while at the same time the Word of Life is preached with such simplicity as shall reach all minds and hearts.

In the warfare against the use and sale of intoxicating drinks the Church has ever furnished the leaders; and so long as there is one soul drawn unto death by the power of appetite, and so long as any are found to tempt others to sin, so long is it the duty and privilege of Christians to do their utmost to educate the young, to rescue the perishing, and to aid in the extermination of the traffic in alcoholic beverages.

The command, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," seems to imply the need of a proper preparation for its observance. On Saturday we are to be mindful of the near approach of the Lord's Day, and order our affairs with reference to its fitting observance. Special effort should be made to prevent the needless intrusion of secular concerns upon that day. Business, pleasure, and secular reading should give place to spiritual improvement and Christian service.

The Church in its very nature is aggressive, and ministers and people may not be satisfied so long as the world is unconquered for Christ. "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth laborers into his harvest." Pray in the closet, at the family altar, in the prayer-meeting and in the sanctuary, for a baptism of the Holy Spirit for service; and then, "He that goeth forth and reapeth bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

JOSEPH E. NASSAU,
Moderator.

T. RALSTON SMITH,
Stated Clerk.

II. REPORTS OF THE PRESBYTERIES.

I. THE PRESBYTERY OF ALBANY consists of fifty-seven ministers and forty-nine churches, and has under its care one licentiate and six candidates.

Ministers received:

December 8, 1885, Rev. Charles J. Young, from the Classis of Monmouth, Rev. John H. Trussell from the Presbytery of Neosho, Rev. William G. B. Lewis from the Presbytery of Champlain, and Rev. German H. Chatterton from the Presbytery of Cedar Rapids.

Licentiates received:

April 20, 1886, Walter Laidlaw from the Presbytery of Hamilton, Canada;
June 8, Daniel J. Many, Jr., from the Presbytery of Utica.

Licensed:

December 23, 1885, Daniel M. Counterline;
April 21, 1886, Ford C. Ottman;
June 8, William Alfred Waddell.

Candidates taken under care of the Presbytery:

October 28, 1885, William Alfred Waddell;
December 23, Ford C. Ottman;
June 8, 1886, Clement G. Martin and James B. Rodgers.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

December 9, 1885, between Rev. James B. Campbell and the Church of Batchellerville;

February 22, 1886, between Rev. Charles Wood and the Fourth Church of Albany.

Ordinations:

December 23, 1885, Herbert C. Hinds;
May 25, 1886, Walter Laidlaw;
May 27, Daniel M. Counterline;
June 22, Daniel J. Many, Jr.;
July 6, George K. Fraser.

Installations:

May 18, 1886, Rev. Charles J. Young, over the First Church, Saratoga Springs;
May 25, Rev. Walter Laidlaw, over the Jermain Memorial Church;
May 27, Rev. Daniel M. Counterline, over the Church of Batchellerville;
June 22, Rev. Daniel J. Many, Jr., over the Church of Esperance;
July 6, Rev. George K. Fraser, over the Church of Northampton, and also over the Church at Northville.

Ministers dismissed:

October 28, 1885, Rev. Samuel R. Warrender, to the Presbytery of Lyons;
December 9, Rev. James B. Campbell, to the Classis of Poughkeepsie;
February 22, 1886, Rev. Charles Wood, to the Presbytery of Philadelphia, North;
April 20, Rev. David Herron, to the Presbytery of Jersey City.

Licentiates dismissed:

April 21, 1886, Ford C. Ottman, to the Presbytery of Newark;

September 21, William Alfred Waddell, to the Presbytery of Los Angeles, and Henry M. Tyndall to the Presbytery of Lake Superior.

Dropped from the roll of Candidates:

April 20, 1886, Erastus E. Ford.

Candidate dismissed:

April 21, 1886, James L. Countermine, to the care of the Presbytery of Chicago.

II. THE PRESBYTERY OF BINGHAMTON consists of twenty-nine ministers and twenty-nine churches, and has under its care two candidates.

Ministers received:

April 21, 1886, Rev. Reuben N. Ives, from the Presbytery of Lackawanna;

September 22, Rev. Edwin H. Dickinson, from the Presbytery of Utica.

Licensed:

April 21, 1886, Mr. A. Cameron McKenzie;

May 25, Mr. John S. Willdridge.

Candidate taken under care of the Presbytery:

September 22, 1886, Mr. Henry G. Blish.

Dissolution of Pastoral relation:

November 17, 1885, between Rev. John G. Blue and the Church at McGrawville.

Ordination and Installation:

May 25, 1886, Mr. A. Cameron McKenzie, as pastor of the Church in Owego.

Ministers dismissed:

June 17, 1886, Rev. John DePeu, to the Litchfield Congregational Association, Ct.;

September 21, Rev. William H. Gill, to the Presbytery of Philadelphia;

September 23, Rev. John G. Blue, to the "Ontario Association."

Licentiate dismissed:

September 21, 1886, Mr. John S. Willdridge, to the Presbytery of Cayuga.

Dropped from the roll of Candidates:

April 21, 1886, Mr. Charles E. Cary.

III. THE PRESBYTERY OF BOSTON consists of forty-five ministers and twenty-seven churches, and has under its care four candidates.

Ministers received:

October 29, 1885, Rev. Donald Macdougall, from the Presbytery of Champlain;

January 27, 1886, Rev. Frederick C. Saure, from the Cincinnati Classis of the Reformed Church;

April 14, Rev. Joseph H. Ralston, from the Presbytery of Larned;

October 6, Rev. James A. F. McBain, from the Presbytery of Montreal; and Rev. Thomas A. Reeves, from the Presbytery of North River.

Licentiate received:

June 15, 1886, George N. Karner, from the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

Candidates taken under care of the Presbytery:

January 27, 1886, George F. W. Hartmann, from the Presbytery of Elizabeth;

April 14, Charles B. Lewis;

June 15, George Loring Todd, from the Presbytery of Cayuga.

Licensed:

January 27, 1886, George F. W. Hartmann.

Dissolutions of pastoral relations:

October 6, 1886, between Rev. Daniel W. Cameron, and the Church at Reading;
and between Rev. Donald B. Macleod and the Church at Quincy.

Ordinations:

January 27, 1886, George F. W. Hartmann;

April 15, John R. Crosser;

June 15, George N. Karner.

Installations:

January 27, 1886, Rev. George F. W. Hartmann, over the First (German) Church
at Manchester;

February 23, Rev. Frederick C. Saure, over the German Church at Lawrence;

April 14, Rev. Daniel W. Cameron, over the Church at Reading;

April 23, Rev. Donald Macdougall, over the Church at Taunton;

May 2, Rev. Rockwood Macquesten, over the Church at Fall River;

May 27, Rev. Joseph H. Ralston, over the Church at Worcester.

Ministers dismissed:

July 20, 1886, Rev. Daniel Deruelle to the Presbytery of Lehigh;

September 30, Rev. Robert D. Sproull to the Presbytery of Brooklyn;

October 6, Rev. Henry M. Kellogg to the New London Association of Congrega-
tional Ministers.

Deaths:

Rev. Charles M. Seaton, at Essex Junction, Vt., April 14, 1885, aged 78;

Rev. Randolph Campbell, at Rowley, Mass., July 28, 1886, aged 77.

Churches organized:

October 29, 1885, the Church at Taunton, Mass.;

May 27, 1886, the Church at Worcester, Mass.;

August 26, the Church at Holyoke, Mass.;

September 28, the Church at Roxbury, Boston, Mass.

IV. THE PRESBYTERY OF BROOKLYN consists of forty-nine ministers and twenty-four churches, and has under its care two licentiates and ten candidates.

Ministers received:

December 7, 1885, Rev. Alfred H. Moment, from the Manhattan Congregational
Association;

April 19, 1886, Rev. William H. Dickerson, from the African Methodist Episco-
pal Church;

April 25, Rev. Lyman D. Calkins, from the Presbytery of Westchester;

October 4, Rev. Robert D. Sproull, from the Presbytery of Boston.

Licensed:

April 19, 1886, George W. Gilmore and Benjamin Parlman.

Candidates taken under care of the Presbytery:

October 4, 1886, Jacob E. Mallmann and Robert Robinson.

Dissolutions of Pastoral relations:

February 24, 1886, between Rev. William J. Gill and Trinity Church;

April 19, between Rev. Charles H. Taylor, D. D., and the Greenpoint Church.

Ordination:

April 28, 1886, George W. Gilmore, as an evangelist.

Installations:

December 16, 1885, Rev. Alfred H. Moment, over Westminster Church;

May 10, 1886, Rev. Lyman D. Calkins, over Trinity Church;

May 24, Rev. William H. Dickerson, over Siloam Church;

October 14, Rev. Robert D. Sproull, over the Greenpoint Church.

Ministers dismissed:

February 3, 1886, Rev. James M. Ludlow, D. D., and June 14, Rev. William J. Gill, to the Presbytery of Morris and Orange.

Name dropped from the Roll:

October 4, 1886, Rev. S. Ingraham Hickey.

Deaths:

November 6, 1885, Rev. John Neander, at Brooklyn, N. Y., aged seventy-three years;

February 22, 1886, Rev. J. Abeel Baldwin, at Brooklyn, aged seventy-five years;

March 10, 1886, Rev. James H. Callen, D. D., at Brooklyn, aged sixty-two years.

The Rev. Lewis Ray Foote resigned the office of Stated Clerk, October 4, 1886, and Rev. Newell Woolsey Wells was elected his successor.

V. THE PRESBYTERY OF BUFFALO consists of forty-five ministers and thirty-three churches, and has under its care one licentiate and three candidates.

Ministers received:

December 14, 1885, Rev. Nathaniel I. Rubinkam, from the Classis of Philadelphia, and Rev. Lansing Van Schoonhoven from the Presbytery of Troy;

July 6, 1886, Rev. Edward Howard, from the Association of Ontario, and Rev. William Taylor from the Association of Western New York.

Pastoral relation dissolved:

July 6, 1886, between Rev. Edwin P. Robinson and the Church in Clarence.

Installations:

November 5, 1885, Rev. William Martin, as pastor of the Church in Dunkirk;

January 19, 1886, Rev. Nathaniel I. Rubinkam, as pastor of the Church in Jamestown;

October 14, Rev. Lansing Van Schoonhoven, as pastor of Bethany Church, Buffalo.

Minister dismissed:

December 14, 1885, Rev. J. Joseph Rankin, to the Classis of Westchester.

Deceased:

December 11, 1885, at Dunkirk, Rev. Timothy Stillman, D. D., in the 85th year of his age. He had served as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery from September 2, 1834, to April 12, 1881.

Church formed:

May 13, 1886, Bethany Church, Buffalo.

Church transferred:

May 24, 1886, Allegany and Corn Planter, to the Presbytery of Erie, by act of the General Assembly.

VI. THE PRESBYTERY OF CAYUGA consists of thirty-two ministers and twenty-four churches, and has under its care nine licentiates and four candidates.

Ministers received:

October 27, 1885, Rev. David I. Biggar, from the Presbytery of Syracuse;

April 13, 1886, Rev. Joseph E. Andrews, from the Presbytery of Pittsburgh;

July 16, Rev. Samuel H. Meade, M. D., on examination, from the Protestant Episcopal Church;

September 21, Rev. John T. Wills, D. D., from the Presbytery of San Francisco.

Licentiate received:

July 16, 1886, George V. Reichel, from the Presbytery of Chemung.

Candidates taken under care of the Presbytery:

October 27, 1885, Harmon H. Boone, Edwin H. Byington, John P. McPhie, Charles Ragbir, Lansing Van Auken;

April 15, 1886, Alexander D. McIntosh, Alfred E. Street;

May 6, Mushana E. Barakat, George L. Todd.

Licensed:

October 27, 1885, Alexander Cameron McKenzie;

April 15, 1886, Harmon H. Boone, Edwin H. Byington, Melancthon J. Getman, John P. McPhie, Charles Ragbir, Lansing Van Auken.

Pastoral relation dissolved:

March 1, 1886, between Rev. Junius J. Cowles and the Church in Fair Haven.

Ordained:

March 10, 1886, Albert S. Hughey;

July 27, George V. Reichel;

August 18, John S. Willdridge, a licentiate of the Presbytery of Binghamton;

September 12, Richard S. Holmes.

Installed:

December 8, 1885, Rev. David I. Biggar, over the Church in Owasco;

March 10, 1886, Rev. Albert S. Hughey, over the Westminster Church, Auburn;

April 27, Rev. Joseph E. Andrews, over the Church in Sennett;

July 27, Rev. George V. Reichel, over the Church in Dryden;

August 18, Rev. John S. Willdridge, over the Church in Cato, and August 19, over the Church in Victory;

October 18, Rev. John T. Wills, D. D., over the Church in Aurora.

Ministers dismissed:

October 27, 1885, Rev. William A. Barr, to the Presbytery of Detroit;
March 10, 1886, Rev. Ormond W. Wright, to the Presbytery of Monmouth;
April 27, Rev. Junius J. Cowles, to the Presbytery of St. Lawrence;
July 16, Rev. Charles H. Phillips, to the Fargo Conference of Congregational Churches;
September 21, Rev. R. Hart Dexter, to the Presbytery of Genesee.

Licentiates dismissed:

April 13, 1886, Angus H. Cameron, to the Presbytery of Syracuse; William Hart Dexter, to the Presbytery of Westchester; Alex. Cameron McKenzie, to the Presbytery of Binghamton.

Candidates dismissed:

April 13, 1886, John S. Willdridge, having returned the letter dismissing him to the care of the Presbytery of Chemung, was transferred to the care of the Presbytery of Binghamton;

May 6, George L. Todd, to the care of the Presbytery of Boston.

Deceased:

November 26, 1886, at Auburn, Rev. Charles Hawley, D. D., in the 67th year of his age.

Church formed:

October 27, 1885, the Westminster Church, Auburn.

VII. THE PRESBYTERY OF CHAMPLAIN consists of twenty ministers and seventeen churches, and has under its care one candidate.

Ministers received:

June 15, 1886, Rev. Alanson D. Barber, from the Presbytery of Lackawanna; Rev. S. Gilbert Boardman, from the Presbytery of New Castle; and Rev. Charles S. Newhall, from the Davenport Association of Congregational Churches.

Licentiate received:

July 7, 1886, William Hunter Miller, from the Presbytery of Winchester.

Ordination and installation:

July 7, 1886, William Hunter Miller as pastor of the Church in Chateaugay.

Ministers dismissed:

December 3, 1885, Rev. William G. B. Lewis, to the Presbytery of Albany;
June 15, 1886, Rev. Charles C. Torry, to the Middlesex Union Association, Mass.;

September 1, Rev. Albion L. Green, to the Presbytery of St. Lawrence.

Licentiate dismissed:

September 9, 1886, Edward P. Morse, to the care of the Presbytery of Bloomington.

VIII. THE PRESBYTERY OF CHEMUNG consists of twenty-two ministers and twenty-three churches, and has under its care two licentiates and one candidate.

Ministers received:

April 20, 1886, Rev. Albert Livermore, from the Olivet Congregational Association, Michigan;

September 20, Rev. Christian W. Winnie, from the Presbytery of Nassau.

Licentiate received:

September 20, 1886, Rev. James C. Russell, from the Presbytery of Northumberland.

Licensed:

April 21, 1886, Lucius F. Badger and William J. Sweet.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

November 30, 1885, between Rev. Darius D. Lindsley and the Franklin Street Church, Elmira;

June 30, 1886, between Rev. Charles C. Carr and the Church of Horse Heads.

Ordained:

April 21, 1886, John Calvin Mead;

September 21, James C. Russell.

Installed:

September 21, 1886, Rev. James C. Russell, as pastor of the Church of Horse Heads;

October 6, Rev. Christian W. Winnie, as pastor of the Churches of Tyrone and Pine Grove.

Ministers dismissed:

April 19, 1886, Rev. Edwin Hall, to the Presbytery of Geneva;

April 21, Rev. John Calvin Mead, to the Presbytery of Syracuse;

September 21, Rev. Solomon W. Weiss, to the Presbytery of Niobrara.

Licentiate dismissed:

June 24, 1886, George V. Reichel, to the care of the Presbytery of Cayuga.

IX. THE PRESBYTERY OF CHILE consists of nine ministers and four churches, and has under its care five candidates.

X. THE PRESBYTERY OF COLUMBIA consists of nineteen ministers and nineteen churches, and has under its care one candidate.

Ministers received:

December 15, 1885, Rev. Hugh K. Walker, from the Presbytery of New Castle;

April 27, 1886, Rev. Frederick I. Pohl, from the Naugatuck Valley Association of Congregational Ministers;

September 22, Rev. George LeFevre, from the Classis of Hudson of the Reformed Church.

Candidate received:

September 22, 1886, Edward M. May.

Ordination:

April 28, 1886, Rev. Charles E. Herbert, as an evangelist.

Installations:

December 15, 1885, Rev. Hugh K. Walker, as pastor of the Church of Valatie;
June 2, 1886, Rev. William S. Long, as pastor of the Church of Jewett.

Death:

October 6, 1885, Rev. Frederick F. Judd, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., aged 65 years.

XI. THE PRESBYTERY OF GENESEE consists of twenty-two ministers and twenty-two churches.

Ministers received:

April 13, 1886, Rev. Lindley C. Rutter, from the Presbytery of Chester;
September 28, Rev. Rescum Hart Dexter, from the Presbytery of Cayuga.

Installation:

September 28, 1886, Rev. Lindley C. Rutter, over the Church of North Bergen.

Minister dismissed:

April 13, 1886, Rev. Henry B. Swift, to the Presbytery of Rochester.

The Church of Alexander was joined with the Bethany Centre Church, April 13, 1886, as one charge, under the care of Rev. Solomon C. McElroy.

Church dissolved:

The Church of Pavilion was dissolved, and its name dropped from the roll, February 2, 1886.

The requisite legal steps were taken December 24, 1885, and the Presbytery became an incorporated body. December 26, at Warsaw, the Board of Trustees met, and organized by electing Hon. Edward C. Walker of Batavia, President, and Hon. Henry N. Page, of Perry, Secretary and Treasurer.

XII. THE PRESBYTERY OF GENESEE VALLEY consists of eight ministers and fifteen churches.

Candidate taken under care of the Presbytery:

June 10, 1886, Mr. Benjamin G. Van Cleve, from the Presbytery of Washington.

Dissolution of Pastoral relation:

October 27, 1885, between Rev. Allen G. Daniels and the Church at Ellicottville.

Ordination:

June 10, 1886, Benjamin G. Van Cleve.

Installation:

June 10, 1886, Rev. Benjamin G. Van Cleve, over the Church at Andover.

Ministers dismissed:

October 27, 1885, Rev. Allen G. Daniels, to the Presbytery of Los Angeles;
February 25, 1886, Rev. James A. Green, to the Presbytery of Central Dakota;
June 29, Rev. Jesse Lee, to the Presbytery of Detroit.

Dropped from the roll:

November 20, 1885, the name of the Rev. William Ingleby, deposed.

XIII. THE PRESBYTERY OF GENEVA consists of twenty-six ministers and twenty-two churches, and has under its care one licentiate and seven candidates.

Ministers received:

April 21, 1886, Rev. Edwin Hall, from the Presbytery of Chemung, and Rev. Joseph H. France, D. D., from the Presbytery of Utica.

Licentiate received:

April 21, 1886, Wilber O. Carrier, from the Presbytery of Lansing.

Licensed:

April 21, 1886, Charles F. Porter.

Candidates taken under care of the Presbytery:

September 29, 1886, Clarence J. Geer and Harry H. Smith.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

October 26, 1885, between Rev. William A. Rice and the Church of Canandaigua;

June 10, 1886, between Rev. Newell S. Lowrie, and the Church of Gorham;

September 29, between Rev. William Hogarth, D. D., and the North Church of Geneva, to take effect November first.

Ordination:

June 22, 1886, Wilber O. Carrier.

Installations:

May 20, 1886, Rev. Joseph H. France, D. D., over the Church of Canandaigua;

June 22, Rev. Wilber O. Carrier, over the Church of Manchester.

Ministers dismissed:

October 26, 1885, Rev. William A. Rice and Rev. Eugene G. Cheeseman, to the Presbytery of Syracuse;

April 5, 1886, Rev. George R. Smith, to the Presbytery of Steuben, and Rev. Chester C. Thorne, to the Presbytery of South Florida;

June 10, Rev. Newell S. Lowrie, to the Presbytery of Niobrara;

September 29, Rev. Henry M. Morey to the Presbytery of Lansing.

Dropped from the roll:

September 29, 1886, the name of Walter T. Mills was dropped from the list of candidates.

Deposed:

September 29, 1886, Rev. George N. Smith.

Deceased:

February, 1886, at Minneapolis, Minn., licentiate Wilbur H. Johnson, in the 35th year of his age;

September 4, at Oaks Corners, N. Y., Rev. Henry H. Doolittle, in the 68th year of his age.

XIV. THE PRESBYTERY OF HUDSON consists of forty-two ministers and forty-four churches, and has under its care two candidates for the ministry.

Ministers received:

December 29, 1885, Rev. John S. Gilmor, from the Presbytery of New York;

February 5, 1886, Rev. Robert B. Clark, from the Presbytery of Chicago;
April 19, Rev. Thomas Gordon, from the Presbytery of Alton;
April 20, Rev. Adolph Schabehorn, from the Union Evangelical German Church.

Licentiates received:

April 19, 1886, Mr. Eugene L. Mapes, and June 4, Mr. Norman N. Skinner, both from the Presbytery of New York.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

November 12, 1885, between Rev. William D. Snodgrass, D. D., and the Church of Goshen, Dr. Snodgrass being made Pastor Emeritus;

April 20, 1885, between Rev. H. Ferdinand Bernhardt and the German Church of Jeffersonville;

June 4, between Rev. Eben B. Cobb and the Church of Ramapo.

Ordinations:

April 27, 1886, Mr. Eugene L. Mapes, *sine titulo*;

June 4, Mr. Norman N. Skinner.

Installations:

December 29, 1885, Rev. John S. Gilmor, over the Church of Stony Point;

February 5, 1886, Rev. Robert B. Clark, over the Goshen Church;

May 5, Rev. Adolph Schabehorn, over the German Churches of Clarkstown and Nyack;

May 13, Rev. Thomas Gordon, over the First Church of Middletown;

June 4, Rev. Norman N. Skinner, over the Church of Ramapo.

Dismissed:

April 20, 1886, Rev. H. Ferdinand Bernhardt, to the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Central.

Deaths:

May 16, 1886, Rev. Charles W. Cooper, in his 57th year;

May 28, Rev. William D. Snodgrass, D. D., in his 90th year.

Church formed:

March 4, 1886, The First German Church of Nyack.

Church dropped from the roll:

April 21, 1886, The Church at Damascus, Pa.

Church dedicated:

September 21, 1885, at Milford, Pa.

XV. THE PRESBYTERY OF LONG ISLAND consists of nineteen ministers and twenty-two churches, and has under its care five candidates.

Minister received:

April 13, 1886, Rev. Henry Schlosser, from the Presbytery of Chester.

Candidates taken under the care of the Presbytery:

April 14, 1886, Clifford E. Corwin, Darwin L. Bardwell, A. M.

Pastoral relation dissolved:

September 8, 1886, between Rev. Joseph Westby Earnshaw and the Church in Greenport.

Installations:

December 17, 1885, Rev. Allen Page Bissell, Ph. D., D. D., as pastor of the Church on Shelter Island;

April 14, 1886, Rev. Edward D. Kelsey, as pastor of the Church in Cutchogue;

May 12, Rev. Henry Schlosser, as pastor of the Church of Westhampton.

Dismissed:

September 8, 1886, Rev. Joseph Westby Earnshaw, to the Presbytery of Utica.

Deceased:

October 6, 1885, in Setanket, New York, Rev. James Samuel Evans, D. D., in the 71st year of his age.

XVI. THE PRESBYTERY OF LYONS consists of nineteen ministers and eighteen churches, and has under its care five candidates.

Ministers received:

April 13, 1886, Rev. Andrew B. Morse, from the Presbytery of Genesee, and Rev. Samuel R. Warrender, from the Presbytery of Albany;

June 16, Rev. Sybrandt Nelson, from the Presbytery of Rochester;

September 20, Rev. Charles W. Remington, from the Presbytery of Fargo.

Licensed:

September 20, 1886, Jacob Dyk.

Candidates taken under care of the Presbytery:

September 13, 1886, George F. Pitkin and George H. Rogers.

Pastoral relation dissolved:

March 14, 1886, between Rev. John C. Lenhart and the Church of Wolcott, Second.

Ordained:

September 20, 1886, Jacob Dyk.

Installed:

June 16, 1886, Rev. Sybrandt Nelson, over the Church of Fairville;

September 20, Rev. Jacob Dyk, over the Church of Sodus.

Dismissed:

September 15, 1885, Rev. Elias B. Fisher, to the Presbytery of St. Lawrence;

March 14, 1886, Rev. John C. Lenhart, to the Presbytery of New Castle.

XVII. THE PRESBYTERY OF NASSAU consists of twenty-three ministers and twenty-three churches.

Minister received:

April 13, 1886, Rev. George H. Cleveland, from the Presbytery of Monmouth.

Licentiates received:

April 13, 1886, Albert K. Harsha, from the Presbytery of Monmouth;

May 25, Frederick W. Cutler, from the Presbytery of Morris and Orange.

License conferred:

June 1, 1886, on Elliott C. Armstrong.

Ordinations:

April 19, 1886, Albert K. Harsha;

May 25, Frederick W. Cutler;

June 1, Elliott C. Armstrong.

Installations:

April 19, 1886, Rev. Albert K. Harsha, as pastor of the Roslyn Church;

April 29, Rev. George H. Cleveland, as pastor of the Church of Northport;

May 25, Rev. Frederick W. Cutler, as pastor of the Wood Haven Church;

June 1, Rev. Elliott C. Armstrong, as pastor of the Churches of Green Lawn and Comac.

Ministers dismissed:

April 13, 1886, Rev. Marcus Burr, to the Presbytery of Westchester;

June 1, Rev. Christopher R. Brown, to the Presbytery of Westchester;

July 24, Rev. Christian W. Winnie, to the Presbytery of Chemung;

October 5, Rev. Thomas S. Bradner, to the Presbytery of New York.

XVIII. THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW YORK consists of one hundred and thirty-seven ministers and forty-four churches, and has under its care twelve licentiates and twenty candidates.

Ministers received:

November 9, 1885, Rev. Charles J. Collins, from the Presbytery of Westchester;

December 14, Rev. William T. Elsing, from the Presbytery of Chicago, and Rev. J. Ford Sutton, D. D., from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, Central;

January 11, 1886, Rev. Jesse F. Forbes, from the Brookfield Association of Congregational Ministers, Mass.;

May 10, Rev. Arthur Potts, D. D., from the Presbytery of Utica, and Rev. Paul C. Thyholdt, from the Presbytery of Bloomington;

June 14, Rev. William J. Macdowell, from the Northern Reformed Presbytery of New York, and Rev. John Dooly, from the Evangelical Association of the United States;

July 12, Rev. Therdon Leonhard, from the Davenport Association of Congregational Churches, Iowa;

October 11, Rev. Frederick J. Stanley, from the Presbytery of West Virginia, and Rev. William Howell Buchanan, from the Presbytery of Austin.

Candidates taken under care of the Presbytery:

November 9, 1885, Jonathan Greenleaf;

February 8, 1886, William R. Campbell and Norman N. Skinner;

May 10, Huie Kin;

June 14, James T. Watson.

Licensed:

May 10, 1886, Guido Bossard, James B. McFeeters, Jonathan Greenleaf, Norman N. Skinner, Alexander H. McKinney, Robert K. Wick, William R. Campbell, and Robert Ferguson.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

February 8, 1886, between Rev. David G. Wylie, and the Canal Street Church;
April 12, between Rev. Edwin E. Rogers, and the Allen Street Church;
July 12, between Rev. Erskine N. White, D. D., and the West 23d Street Church.

Ordained:

October 26, 1885, John T. Wilds;
April 1, 1886, Richard D. Harlan;
May 10, William R. Campbell and Charles R. Gillett, *sine titulo*;
May 18, Alexander H. McKinney, as Chapel Minister.

Installed:

October 25, 1885, Rev. John C. Bliss, D. D., as pastor of the Washington Heights Church;

October 26, Rev. John T. Wilds, as pastor of the Seventh Church;
December 20, Rev. J. Ford Sutton, D. D., as pastor of the Murray Hill Church;
February 21, 1886, Rev. Nicholas Bjerring, as pastor of the Church of the Redeemer;

February 25, Rev. David G. Wylie, as pastor of Knox Church;
March 7, Rev. Jesse F. Forbes, as pastor of Adams Memorial Church;
April 1, Rev. Richard D. Harlan, as pastor of the First Church;
April 4, Rev. Louis Wolferz, as pastor of Zion Church.

Ministers dismissed:

December 14, 1885, Rev. John S. Gilmor, to the Presbytery of Hudson;
February 8, 1886, Rev. Franklin B. Dwight, to the Presbytery of Westchester.

Licentiates transferred:

February 8, 1886, Henry G. Smith, to the Presbytery of Monmouth;
April 14, Eugene L. Mapes, to the Presbytery of Hudson;
April 19, John S. Allen, to the Presbytery of Westchester;
May 10, Robert K. Wick, to the Presbytery of Rochester;
May 27, Norman N. Skinner, to the Presbytery of Hudson;
May 29, James G. Hamner, Jr., to the Presbytery of Newark;
September 3, Jonathan Greenleaf, to the Presbytery of Otsego.

Candidates transferred:

April 29, 1886, Frederick D. Brandenburg, to the Presbytery of Elizabeth;
May 10, Elliott C. Armstrong, to the Presbytery of Nassau.

Licentiates received:

February 8, 1886, Richard D. Harlan, from the Presbytery of Washington City,
and John S. Allen, from the Reformed Presbytery of New York.

Churches organized:

November 22, 1885, Church of the Redeemer (German);
January, 1886, Adams Memorial;
February 28, Zion (German).

Deceased:

January 10, 1886, at Hudson, N. Y., Rev. Albert Van Deusen, in the 33rd year of his age;
February 2, at Miller's Place, N. Y., Rev. Morse Rowell, in the 70th year of his age.

The "Presbyterian Memorial Church" is hereafter to be known as the "Madison Avenue" Church.

XIX. THE PRESBYTERY OF NIAGARA consists of twenty-three ministers and eighteen churches, and has one licentiate and two candidates under its care.

Licensed:

April 27, 1886, Lowell C. Smith.

Minister dismissed:

September 28, 1886, Rev. James A. Skinner, to the Presbytery of Rochester.

Deceased:

February 11, 1886, Rev. Seth Smalley, at Perth Amboy, N. J., aged 87 years.

XX. THE PRESBYTERY OF NORTH LAOS consists of four ministers and four churches.

XXI. THE PRESBYTERY OF NORTH RIVER consists of forty-one ministers and twenty-nine churches, and has under its care one licentiate and one candidate.

Ministers received:

April 19, 1886, Rev. Andrew W. McGibbon, from the Classis of Ulster, Reformed (Dutch) Church; and Rev. Andrew Gray, from the Presbytery of Wallace, Nova Scotia.

Candidate taken under care of the Presbytery:

April 19, 1886, William Roe.

Licensed:

April 20, 1886, William Roe.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

November 3, 1885, between Rev. Frank Edge Kavanagh and the Church of Wappinger's Falls;

October 5, 1886, between Rev. Thomas A. Reeves and the Church at Matteawan.

Ordination:

November 3, 1885, James A. Norris.

Installations:

November 3, 1885, Rev. James A. Norris, as pastor of the Church of Wappinger's Creek;

April 28, 1886, Rev. William G. Westervelt, as pastor of the Church of Milton;

June 3, Rev. Andrew W. McGibbon, as pastor of the Church at Wappinger's Falls.

Ministers dismissed:

April 19, 1886, Rev. Edward Love, to the Presbytery of Elizabeth; and Rev. Adrian V. S. Wallace to the Presbytery of Troy;

October 5, 1886, Rev. James Otis Denniston, to the Presbytery of Otsego; and Rev. Thomas A. Reeves, to the Presbytery of Boston.

Deceased:

Rev. Eliphalet P. Ackerman, at Hughsonville, N. Y., October 7, 1885, aged 68.
The Church at Middle Hope was dissolved April 20, 1886.

XXII. THE PRESBYTERY OF OROOMIAH consists of thirty-six ministers, of whom twenty-five are native, and has under its care thirty-two licentiates.

XXIII. THE PRESBYTERY OF OTSEGO consists of twenty-seven ministers and twenty-six churches.

Ministers received:

April 28, 1886, Rev. Samuel J. White, D. D., from the Litchfield North Association of Congregational Ministers and Churches; Rev. Arial McMasters, from the Mineral Point Convention of Congregational Ministers and Churches; Rev. Frederic L. Hiller, from the Wyoming Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Licentiate received:

September 15, 1886, Mr. Jonathan Greenleaf, from the Presbytery of New York.

Candidate received:

September 15, 1886, Mr. George B. Swinnerton, of the Church of Cherry Valley.

Pastoral relation dissolved:

June 2, 1886, between Rev. Irving E. White and the Church of Hobart.

Ordination:

September 22, 1886, Jonathan Greenleaf.

Installation:

September 22, 1886, Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, as pastor of the Church of Hobart.

Minister dismissed:

June 2, 1886, Rev. Irving E. White, to the Presbytery of Westchester.

Church restored to the roll:

September 15, 1886, the Church in Westford.

Church declared extinct and dropped from the roll:

April 28, 1886, the Church in Exeter Center.

XXIV. THE PRESBYTERY OF ROCHESTER consists of sixty-six ministers and forty-four churches; and has under its care two licentiates and six candidates.

Ministers received:

December 26, 1885, Rev. John C. Henderson, from the Presbytery of Mankato, and Rev. Edward B. Walsworth, D. D., from the Presbytery of Genesee;

April 15, 1886, Rev. T. Dwight Hunt, from the Presbytery of Saginaw;

September 21, Rev. T. H. Quigley, from the Genesee Association of Congregational Ministers and Churches.

Licentiate received:

September 21, 1886, Robert Kerr Wick, from the Presbytery of New York.

Licensed:

April 13, 1886, Albert S. Bacon.

Candidates taken under care of the Presbytery:

April 13, 1886, Frank E. Hoyt;

September 21, Clay H. Denman.

Pastoral relation dissolved:

December 31, 1885, between Rev. William H. Millham and the Church of Livonia.

Ordination:

September 30, 1886, Robert Kerr Wick.

Installation:

September 30, 1886, Rev. Robert Kerr Wick, as pastor of the First and Second Churches of Sparta.

Ministers dismissed:

December 26, 1885, Rev. William H. Millham, to the Presbytery of Monroe;

April 13, 1886, Rev. Evan R. Evans, to the Presbytery of Grand Rapids;

June 14, Rev. Sybrandt Nelson, to the Presbytery of Lyons;

September 21, Rev. George Craig, to the Presbytery of Saginaw.

Church formed:

November 24, 1885, at Piffard, with twenty members.

XXV. THE PRESBYTERY OF ST. LAWRENCE consists of thirty-two ministers and thirty churches, and has under its care three candidates.

Ministers received:

June 1, 1886, Rev. Samuel P. Herron, from the Presbytery of Hastings;

September 28, Rev. Nathaniel B. Anderson, from the Methodist Protestant Church, Onondaga Association; Rev. Albion L. Green, from the Presbytery of Champlain; Rev. Junius J. Cowles, from the Presbytery of Cayuga.

Licentiate received:

April 13, 1886, Mr. Frederick W. Johnson, from the Presbytery of Kingston, Canada.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

June 11, 1886, between Rev. Albert W. Allen and the Church of Sackett's Harbor;

September 1, between Rev. George B. Stevens, D. D., and the First Church of Watertown.

Ordination:

May 18, 1886, Frederick W. Johnson.

Installations:

November 19, 1885, Rev. Rolla G. Bugbee, over the Church in Canton;

May 18, 1886, Rev. Frederick W. Johnson, over the Church in Chaumont.

Ministers dismissed:

April 12, 1886, Rev. Joseph Browne, to the Presbytery of Mattoon;

June 11, Rev. Albert W. Allen, to the Presbytery of Utica.

Dropped from the roll:

April 14, 1886, the name of Rev. J. Leonard Wanhg.

XXVI. THE PRESBYTERY OF SIAM consists of six ministers and six churches, and has under its care four licentiates and two candidates.

XXVII. THE PRESBYTERY OF STEUBEN consists of twenty-one ministers and nineteen churches, and has under its care one licentiate and three candidates.

Ministers received:

April, 19, 1886, Rev. George R. Smith, from the Presbytery of Geneva;

April 20, Rev. Alanson Bixby, from the St. Louis Association of Congregational Ministers and Churches.

Licentiate received:

September 15, 1886, William C. Brass, from the Presbytery of Binghamton.

XXVIII. THE PRESBYTERY OF SYRACUSE consists of twenty-eight ministers and thirty-six churches, and has under its care four candidates.

Ministers received:

January 12, 1886, Rev. William A. Rice and Rev. Eugene G. Cheeseman, from the Presbytery of Geneva; Rev. John E. Beecher, from the Presbytery of St. Lawrence; and Rev. John C. Mead, from the Presbytery of Chemung.

Licentiates received:

April 13, 1886, Albert J. Abeel and George W. Luther, from the Presbytery of Utica.

Licensed:

April 13, 1886, Alfred N. Raven.

Candidate taken under care of the Presbytery:

May 27, 1886, Stephen D. Waterbury.

Dissolutions of pastoral relations:

June 1, 1886, between the Rev. Charles H. Smith and the Fulton Church;

September 21, between the Rev. David Tully, D. D., and the First Church of Oswego.

Ordinations:

May 27, 1886, Angus H. Cameron, George W. Luther, and Albert J. Abeel.

Installations:

May 27, 1886, Rev. Angus H. Cameron, as pastor of the Churches of Ridgeville and Oneida Lake;

June 29, Rev. George W. Luther, as pastor of the Churches of Janesville and Manlius;

July 20, Rev. John C. Mead, as pastor of the Church of Canastota.

Ministers dismissed:

April 13, 1886, Rev. Naomi Tamura, to the First Presbytery of Tokio;

September 21, Rev. David Tully, D. D., to the Presbytery of Chester.

Deceased:

July 27, 1886, at Webster, N. Y., Rev. Eugene G. Cheeseman, in the 46th year of his age.

Church received:

June 29, 1886, The Reformed Church of Canastota having first withdrawn from the Classis of Cayuga, and changed its name to the First Presbyterian Church of Canastota, was received into the Presbytery.

XXIX. THE PRESBYTERY OF TROY consists of fifty-seven ministers and forty-three churches, and has under its care two licentiates and four candidates.

Ministers received:

October 29, 1885, Rev. Thomas A. Sanson, from the Presbytery of Indian Territory;

April 20, 1886, Rev. Adrian V. S. Wallace, from the Presbytery of North River, and Rev. Samuel R. Biggar, from the U. P. Presbytery of Argyle;

May 31, Rev. Theophilus Parsons Sawin, from the Woburn Association of Congregational Ministers;

September 21, Rev. Charles D. Herbert, from the Essex North Association of Congregational Ministers.

Licensed:

April 20, 1886, Josiah Still and William Fraser.

Candidates taken under care of the Presbytery:

April 20, 1886, William Fraser and George W. Clark.

Dissolutions of pastoral relations:

October 13, 1885, between Rev. Kerr C. Anderson, D. D., and the First Church, Troy;

May 31, 1886, between Rev. Frederick G. Clark, D. D., and the Second Street Church, Troy.

Ordinations:

October 29, 1885, Lansing Van Schoonhoven, as an evangelist;

April 21, 1886, William Fraser, as an evangelist.

Installations:

February 12, 1885, Rev. Arthur Huntington Allen, over the Woodside Church, Troy;

May 4, 1886, Rev. Adrian V. S. Wallace, over the Church of Green Island;

May 12, Rev. Mark A. Denman, over the Church of Melrose;

June 8, Rev. Thomas A. Sanson, over the Church of Argyle;

June 17, Rev. Theophilus Parsons Sawin, over the First Church, Troy.

Minister dismissed:

November 7, 1885, Rev. Lansing Van Schoonhoven, to the Presbytery of Buffalo.

Rev. William Irvin, D. D., resigned the office of Stated Clerk, April 20, 1886, and was succeeded by Rev. Arthur Huntington Allen.

XXX. THE PRESBYTERY OF UTICA consists of fifty-one ministers, and has under its care forty-three churches, three licentiates and fifteen candidates.

Ministers received:

April 12, 1886, Rev. Arthur S. Hoyt, from the Presbytery of Freeport; Rev. Timothy B. Jervis, from the Presbytery of Chemung; and Rev. John Minor from the Classis of Montgomery.

September 28, Rev. Albert W. Allen, from the Presbytery of St. Lawrence.

Candidates taken under care of the Presbytery:

September 28, 1886, Milo Burdette Laughlin, David Hansen Chrestenson, Albert Evans.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

January 26, 1886, between Rev. Joseph H. France, D. D., and the Church of Lowville;

April 13, between Rev. Elizur N. Manley and the Church of Camden;

June 3, between Rev. Edwin H. Dickinson and the Church of Knoxboro;

July 19, between Rev. James P. Viele and the Church of Vernon.

Installations:

June 15, 1886, Rev. George O. Phelps, over the Bethany Church, Utica;

October 6, Rev. Albert W. Allen, over the Church of Camden.

Ministers dismissed:

January 26, 1886, Rev. Joseph H. France, D. D., to the Presbytery of Geneva;

April 12, Rev. Arthur Potts, to the Presbytery of New York;

June 3, Rev. Edwin H. Dickinson, to the Presbytery of Binghamton;

September 28, Rev. Lewis R. Webber to the Presbytery of St. Lawrence.

Licentiates dismissed:

April, 12, 1886, Albert J. Abeel and George W. Luther, to the Presbytery of Syracuse; Daniel J. Many, Jr., to the Presbytery of Albany.

Name dropped from the roll:

April 13, 1886, Rev. Samuel W. Raymond, M. D., demitted the ministry.

Deceased:

November 4, 1885, at Utica, N. Y., Rev. Samuel G. Brown, D. D., LL. D., in the 73d year of his age;

March 21, 1886, at Rome, N. Y., Rev. Selden Haines, D. D., in the 86th year of his age;

September 24, at Oneida Castle, N. Y., Rev. Andrew Cochran, in the 70th year of his age.

Church re-enrolled:

April 13, 1886, the Church of Redfield.

XXXI. THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTCHESTER consists of sixty-one ministers and forty churches, and has under its care five licentiates and five candidates.

Ministers received:

January 19, 1886, Rev. James G. Rodger, from the Presbytery of North River;

April 20, Rev. Marcus Burr, from the Presbytery of Nassau; Rev. Franklin B. Dwight, from the Presbytery of New York; Rev. Marcellus Bowen, from the Presbytery of Elizabeth;

June 15, Rev. Irving E. White, from the Presbytery of Otsego;
 October 5, Rev. Christopher R. Brown, from the Presbytery of Nassau;
 October 6, Rev. Edward C. Moore, from the Presbytery of Columbus.

Licentiates received:

April 20, 1886, John S. Allen, from the Presbytery of New York; William H. Dexter, from the Presbytery of Cayuga.

Licences conferred:

April 21, 1886, upon William Gardner and Arthur Requa.

Candidates taken under care of the Presbytery:

April 21, 1886, John Dunlap, James K. Phillips, and O. Edward Loe.

Dissolutions of pastoral relations:

April 21, 1886, between Rev. David Murdoch, D. D., and the Second Church of Peekskill; and between Rev. Lyman D. Calkins and the Church at South Salem.

Ordinations:

May 13, 1886, John S. Allen;

June 15, William H. Dexter.

Installations:

April 27, 1886, Rev. Franklin B. Dwight, over the Sing Sing Church;

May 12, Rev. James G. Rodger, over the First Church at New Haven;

May 13, Rev. John S. Allen, over the Throgg's Neck Church;

June 15, Rev. William H. Dexter, over the South-East Centre Church.

Ministers dismissed:

April 21, 1886, Rev. Lyman D. Calkins, to the Presbytery of Brooklyn;

June 15, Rev. Marcus Burr, to the Middlesex Association of Congregational Ministers of Connecticut;

October 5, Charles E. Upson, to the Presbytery of Chicago.

Church formed:

February 19, 1886, First Church, New Haven, Ct.

SUMMARY.

Ministers.....	1076	Licentiates.....	79
Churches.....	797	Candidates.....	121

III. TRUSTEES OF THE SYNOD.

President: William Allen Butler, Esq., Trinity Building, New York.

Secretary: Rev. T. Ralston Smith, D. D., Buffalo.

Treasurer: Warner Van Norden, Esq., 23 Nassau St., New York.

Legal Committee: William Allen Butler and Henry Day, Esqrs.

Term expiring in 1887.—Rev. Charles S. Robinson, D. D., Rev. Samuel M. Hamilton, D. D., William A. Wheelock, Henry Day.

Term expiring in 1888.—Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Rev. Henry M. Mac Cracken, D. D., William Allen Butler, John C. Tucker.

Term expiring in 1889.—Rev. Leander T. Chamberlain, D. D., Rev. George Alexander, D. D., Edward Wells, Warner Van Norden.

IV. SUCCESSION OF MODERATORS.

	NAME.	PRESBYTERY.	PLACE.
1882.	Henry A. Nelson, D. D.,	Geneva.....	Utica, N. Y.
"	Howard Crosby, D. D., LL.D.	New York.....	" "
1883.	James McLeod, D. D.	Buffalo.....	New York.
1884.	John McC. Holmes, D. D.	Albany.....	Buffalo, N. Y.
1885.	L. Merrill Miller, D. D.	St. Lawrence.....	Troy, N. Y.
1886.	Joseph E. Nassau, D. D.	Genesee.....	Elmira, N. Y.

V. PERMANENT OFFICERS OF THE PRESBYTERIES.

Changes in Names and Addresses.

BROOKLYN: Rev. Newell Woolsey Wells, Stated Clerk, 155 South Third Street, Brooklyn, E. D.

CHEMUNG: Rev. Charles C. Carr, Stated Clerk, Horse Heads.

TROY: Rev. Arthur Huntington Allen, Stated Clerk, Troy.

WESTCHESTER: Rev. William J. Cumming, Stated Clerk, Yorktown;

Rev. George W. F. Birch, D. D., Treasurer, 184 Willis Avenue, New York.

VI. ELMIRA COLLEGE.

I. FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, JULY 1, 1886.

I. ASSETS.

Estimated Value of College Grounds and Buildings.....	\$150,000.00
President's House and Grounds.....	8,000.00
Two Vacant City Lots.....	1,500.00
Observatory Buildings, Grounds and Instruments.....	10,000.00
Educational Collections.....	4,000.00
Library.....	4,000.00
Musical Instruments.....	7,000.00
Art Department, Paintings, Studies, &c.....	4,000.00
Furniture.....	10,000.00
Total	\$198,500.00
Amount invested:	
Corporate Bonds.....	\$38,100.00
Bonds and Mortgages on Real Estate.....	72,200.00
Total.....	\$308,800.00

II. LIABILITIES.

Bonded Debt:	
Bond and Mortgage upon College Property.....	\$25,000.00
College Bonds held by the Endowment Fund.....	9,500.00
Total.....	\$34,500.00
Floating Debt:	
Treasurer's Notes.....	\$9,760.00
Accrued Interest thereon.....	329.40
Bills due for Current Expenses.....	4,438.68
Interest due the Endowment Fund.....	1,200.00
Total	\$15,728.08

III. RESOURCES.

Term Bills unpaid	\$2,168.50
Interest due and to fall due, to July 1.....	1,447.00
Uncollected Subscriptions	1,243.00
Balance in Bank.....	740.75
Total	\$5,599.25
Balance of Floating Debt-unprovided for \$10,128.83.	

IV. REVENUE.

From Board and Tuition.....	\$18,801.94
“ Term Bills due	2,168.50
Interest received from Mortgages.	5,490.85
Interest due and to become due July 1.....	1,447.00
Total	\$27,908.29

V. EXPENSES.

Actually paid.....	\$26,121.70
Incurred but not paid.....	6,278.68
Total	\$32,400.38
Deficiency	\$4,492.09

2. BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Term Expiring in 1887.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Rev. Augustus W. Cowles, D. D., | Rev. Evert Van Slyke, D. D., |
| Rev. George C. Curtis, D. D., | Rev. William A. Niles, D. D., |
| Rev. William Hogarth, D. D., | Rev. Isaac Jennings, Jr., |
| Daniel W. McWilliams. | |

Term Expiring in 1888.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| John T. Rathbun, | Rev. Wilson Phraner, D. D., |
| John I. Nicks, | Seymour Dexter, |
| Newton P. Fassett, | Rev. George D. Meigs. |

Term Expiring in 1889.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Alexander S. Diven, | Rev. J. Lovejoy Robertson, |
| Daniel R. Pratt, | Rev. George H. McKnight, D. D., |
| Francis Hall, | H. Boardman Smith. |

3. BOARD OF EXAMINERS.

Term Expiring in 1887.—Rev. Hugh W. Torrence, Rev. Charles C. Hemenway, Rev. Stanley D. Jewell.

Term Expiring in 1888.—Rev. Samuel Dunham, Rev. John S. Bacon, Rev. Frederick B. Savage, D. D.

Term Expiring in 1889.—Rev. Charles C. Carr, Rev. John L. Taylor, Rev. Arthur W. Spooner.

VII. STANDING RULES.

I.

The Annual Meeting of the Synod shall begin on the Third Tuesday of October, at half-past seven o'clock, P. M.

II.

The place of the next meeting shall be designated prior to the adjournment yearly. A Committee of Arrangements shall be appointed, who shall provide suitable accommodations for the Synod and entertainment for its members, recommend the limits of the daily sessions, and propose arrangements for devotional services; provided, however, that the morning sessions shall always be begun with devotional services, to be continued ordinarily for half an hour.

III.

The Moderator and the Stated and Permanent Clerks shall be a Standing Committee, to report, from year to year, on the place of the next meeting of the Synod.

IV.

Each Presbytery shall, at its stated meeting next preceding the meeting of the Synod, and, if possible, not later than two weeks before such meeting, elect the number of delegates to which it is entitled, together with an equal number of alternates, as prescribed by the organic rule under which the Synod is constituted, namely:

"The Synod of New York shall be composed of equal delegations of ministers and ruling elders from each Presbytery in the following proportion: each Presbytery, the number of whose ministers and churches taken together is not more than 14, shall send one minister and one elder; each Presbytery, containing more than 14 and not more than 28 ministers and churches taken together, shall send two ministers and two elders; and so in like proportion for every additional number of 14 ministers and churches taken together, or for the fraction thereof; *provided*, that no Presbytery shall be entitled to send more than ten ministers and ten elders."

V.

The Stated Clerk of each Presbytery, immediately after its Fall stated meeting, shall send to the Stated Clerk of the Synod an official report of the delegates and alternate delegates elected by the Presbytery to represent it at the Synod; and from such report shall be made up the official roll of the Synod.

At the calling of the roll of the Synod at its first session, the names of all delegates who have been officially reported to represent the Presbyteries shall be called, and those not responding, either personally or by alternates officially reported, shall be marked as absent.

When alternate delegates appear in place of their principals regularly appointed, such delegates shall report in person to the Stated Clerk of the Synod, and their names shall be substituted upon the official roll for those of their principals.

Duplicate lists of delegates shall be sent by the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries to the Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements.

VI.

The Stated and Permanent Clerks shall have the privileges of the floor; and the members of committees which have been appointed at a previous session to report to the Synod shall be entitled to participate in debate when their reports are under consideration.

Ministers of other Synods, and of bodies in regular correspondence with the General Assembly, may be elected corresponding members, and the members nominating them shall report immediately to the Stated Clerk, in writing, the names of such ministers, in full, their Synodical or equivalent ecclesiastical relations, and their post-office addresses.

VII.

In the case of the failure of the Moderator, the annual meeting shall be opened with a sermon by a minister of the Synod designated by the Committee of Arrangements.

VIII.

A complete roll of the ministers and churches of each Presbytery shall be sent by its Stated Clerk to the Stated Clerk of the Synod, at least ten days before the annual meeting.

IX.

Each Presbytery, immediately after its Fall Stated Meeting, shall forward to the Stated Clerk of the Synod a Statistical Report and History of its Acts and Changes, for the year preceding, as required by the Form of Government, Chap. X., Sec. 9. These reports shall be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

X.

The following Standing Committees shall be appointed by the Moderator at every annual meeting:

1. Bills and Overtures; to consist of six ministers and five elders.
2. Judicial Business; to consist of six ministers and five elders.
3. Minutes of the General Assembly; to consist of three ministers and two elders.
4. Finance; to consist of five elders.
5. Leave of Absence; to consist of three ministers and two elders.
6. To Nominate Committees to attend the examinations in Auburn and Union Theological Seminaries, and Visitors to other Educational Institutions; to consist of four ministers and three elders.
7. To Nominate the Woman's Synodical Committee on Home Missions; to consist of four ministers and three elders.
8. To Nominate the Permanent Committee on Temperance; to consist of four ministers and three elders.
9. To Nominate the Trustees and Examiners of Elmira Female College; to consist of four ministers and three elders.
10. On the Records of the several Presbyteries; each Committee to consist of two ministers and one elder.

Before the adjournment a committee of one minister and one elder on each of the Boards of the Church shall be appointed, to serve for one year; and these committees, with a general chairman to be chosen at the same time, shall constitute the Committee on Systematic Beneficence and the Work of the Church, whose report shall be the first order of business on the second day of every annual session.

A committee shall be appointed, also, to present, at the next sessions of the Synod, a brief Pastoral Letter, to be sent down to the Presbyteries and Churches of the Synod.

XI.

1. At every annual meeting, one of the three classes of Trustees of the Elmira Female College, consisting of six or seven members, as the case may be, shall be elected for a period of three years; and any vacancy which may have occurred in any class shall be filled.

2. The Reformed (Dutch), the Congregational, the Methodist Episcopal, the Protestant Episcopal, and the Baptist denominations, shall be represented, each by one member of the Board of Trustees, to be chosen by the Synod, as required by the charter.

3. Three ministers shall likewise be chosen for a period of three years, as members of a Board of nine Examiners, whose duty it shall be to visit the College at such times as they may agree upon, and examine its methods of instruction and discipline as well as the general condition of the institution, and its adaptedness to the work entrusted to it. The Board shall appoint its own Chairman and Secretary, and shall present a written report annually to the Synod.

XII.

* In all cases not otherwise provided for by its own regulations, the Synod shall be governed in its proceeding by the General Rules for Judicatories appended to the Form of Government, as amended by the General Assembly.

XIII.

All papers intended for Committees shall be delivered to the Stated Clerk, and reported by him to the Synod, before being referred.

XIV.

In case of extended reports, if they are to be recorded, the Stated Clerk shall have authority to condense, at his discretion, those portions which do not contain resolutions or recommendations adopted by the Synod, unless otherwise directed by a vote of the Synod.

XV.

To provide for the necessary expenses of the Synod, the several Presbyteries shall furnish, annually, amounts proportioned respectively to the number of their communicants, according to a rate *per capita* determined at the previous meeting of the Synod. And if no action has been taken, the rate shall be six mills for each communicant.

These sums shall be due and payable to the Treasurer on the first of October, when the Synod's fiscal year shall terminate.

XVI.

The Treasurer shall be authorized to pay the salaries, and the traveling expenses of the Stated and Permanent Clerks in attending the sessions of the Synod; and all charges incurred under the standing orders or special resolutions of the Synod, upon the certificate of the Stated Clerk. His accounts and vouchers shall be presented at the annual meeting, and shall be audited by the Committee on Finance.

XVII.

Vacancies occurring, between the annual sessions of the Synod, in any Committees whose members have been appointed to represent the Presbyteries, may be filled, *ad interim*, by the Presbyteries concerned.

XVIII.

The Minutes of the Synod shall be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk, as soon as practicable after the adjournment; and a copy shall be sent to every minister in the Synod, to every elder whose name is on the roll, and to the Session of each vacant church.

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